

THE

# Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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## CONTENTS.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	The Colonies and Dis-	227
Bishop Ellicott on	establishment	
Church Prospects ...	Sketches from the Gal-	227
Political and Religious	lery	
Equality .....	Imperial Parliament	227
Scottish Church Notes	Election Intelligence	229
The Hatcham Case .....	School Board News	228
The Difficulties of	The Eastern Question	227
"Church Defence" .....	Epitome of News	229
Church Opinions on In-	Miscellaneous	230
dependence and Dis-	Gleanings	231
establishment .....	LEADING ARTICLES:	
The Disestablishment	Summary	233
Movement .....	Another "Golden	
The Halifax Vicar's	Bridge" .....	233
Rate Bill .....	President Hayes and	
The Burials Bill .....	his Policy	234
An Episcopal Re-	LITERATURE:	
tract .....	Mr. Pictou's Recent	
Religious and Denomi-	Lectures	234
national News .....	"Picturesque Europe"	235
CORRESPONDENCE:	The "Expositor" .....	235
The Recent Election at	The Magazines for	
Wilton .....	March	236
The Agricultural	Brief Notices	237
Labourer and the	Births, Marriages, and	
Franchise .....	Deaths	238

## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### BISHOP ELICOTT ON CHURCH PROSPECTS.

IF, as Mr. Matthew Arnold assures us in many a bitter phrase, sweetness and light are peculiarly characteristic of a legally Established religion, it is somewhat strange that prudence and obscurity should be the general attributes of Episcopal utterances. These attributes are very apparent in a discussion of "The Present and Future of the Church of England," contributed to the first number of the *Nineteenth Century* by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. The issue of the whole argument is, "that we are now in the midst of trial and disquietude, and that now, if ever, is the time for each loyal member of the Church of England to pray to be endued with the spirit of gentleness, sobriety, and moderation." Such reflections are salutary; but, we suppose, there is not a single denomination of all the hundreds into which Christianity is divided that would not regard them as equally applicable to itself; and a discussion of twenty pages would seem superfluous to prove that they are adapted to the present condition of the Church of England. Yet, with the exception of a foreboding, notoriously shared by leading representatives of many other churches, "that, in the future, controversy may turn again upon the great doctrine that called out the Nicene Creed," that is really all the light we get upon the coming time. The truth is the bishop is too candid to be a mere partisan; and as it is impossible distinctly to defend religious inequality without assuming that position, he is necessarily driven to take refuge in obscurity. He has too much common-sense to ignore contemporary facts; and as their logical development would be destructive to the Establishment, though not to the Church, he is content to believe that this logical development will be arrested, though he does not exactly see how that is to be managed. "That modifications will be introduced in the relation between the Church and the State it may be perfectly reasonable to anticipate. . . . But that any serious organic change injurious to its well-being can ever happen to the Church of England is a thought which each year of present Church life renders now less and less conceivable." It is a curious illustration of the vagueness of which human language, especially Episcopal, is capable, that we are able heartily to concur

in both of these expectations, although we are sure that the bishop's prognostications of the ecclesiastical future and our own are irreconcilably divergent.

Dividing his article into three general heads, Bishop Ellicott first reviews some general characteristics of Church life that seem to distinguish the present condition of things from the past. He observes with much justice that the Church indisputably manifests "new energy and fuller earnestness." This we cordially concede. We are even more liberal in our acknowledgment than his lordship; for we sincerely believe the energy and earnestness to be greater than can possibly be long contained within the legal bonds of an Establishment. We are next called to observe that "if there be life, there is also as clearly some increase in elasticity." That is to say, the "mission-services" now frequently held borrow a few elements from Wesleyan revival meetings; the Litany is often separated from morning prayer; and "the practice of leaving churches all day open for private prayer is gradually increasing." While, however, it is found impossible to afford legal relief to those who object to the Athanasian Creed, while it is unlawful to introduce into the devotions of the congregation a single unauthorised prayer, however urgently special circumstances may suggest it, while a reform of Convocation remains impracticable, and even a tentative proposal of parochial councils causes all parties to bristle with deprecating fears, the writer does well to acknowledge that this elasticity is "still modest in its amount." A third characteristic of contemporary Churchmanship is said to be found in increased toleration. But surely this is not distinctive of one denomination! It is the age in which we live, rather than the Church, that is increasingly tolerant. This is so obviously the case that the practical question presses itself home, What ecclesiastical arrangements are best adapted to give full scope to this undeniable tendency of the times? It is sufficiently clear to most unbiased minds that we cannot stop short of religious equality. In fact, so far as the law is concerned, we have already got entirely beyond toleration. We claim, not the privilege, but the right of thinking for ourselves; of choosing such modes of worship as we prefer; and of entire exemption from all political disabilities or disadvantages, direct or indirect, on account of the conclusions to which we come, or the communion to which we belong. No ecclesiastical policy which fails to provide for the logical development of this principle can permanently survive. And this is acknowledged to be impossible to an Episcopalian Establishment. It is impossible to any national church but one that should comprehend the whole nation. "But corporate reunion," says Bishop Ellicott, "is a Churchman's dream which on this side the millennium will apparently never have its fulfilment."

The writer is, however, sanguine enough to believe that the characteristics noticed are "full of hope and encouragement." But he thinks it prudent to review some two or three very serious questions that apparently cast a blight upon the prospect. Are the inherent defects in the machinery of the Church insuperable? Is there any prevalent spirit or temper in the incongruous with its permanence? Or is the Establishment in itself an anachronism? Under

the first question the sale of benefices, the powerlessness of congregations in the choice of their ministers, and the helplessness of both bishop and people to get rid of a neglectful incumbent, are considered; but no hope of any speedy remedy is given. On the other hand, the one most damaging defect of all—the inability of the Church to comprehend the nation—it is not thought worth while to notice. Under the second question, the bishop deals very faintly with Ritualism, and somewhat more boldly with Church newspapers; but as it appears to us, he altogether fails to appreciate the irreconcilable fanaticism represented by the English Church Union. In dealing with the third question, Dr. Ellicott, we are glad to observe, altogether declines to regard the religious mission of the Anglican Church as bound up with the Establishment. He defends the latter institution on other grounds. If it is anomalous—which he does not seem disposed to deny—"so is a very great part of our English constitution." True, but in these latter days progress consists to a very large extent in getting rid of anomalies; and to this the privileges of one great denomination should form no exception. The bishop is encouraged by many symptoms that "there is a deep and strong attachment to the Church of England in the hearts of the people." That this is the case with a considerable section of the people we fully admit. None are more deeply imbued with this newborn zeal than the Ritualists; but, as to their attachment to the Establishment, let Mr. Tooth be its exponent. On the whole, the bishop does well to wind up with generalities, in which men of all parties may sympathise. "The greatest difficulties of the future," he says, "are all summed up in the word Unbelief. Let us not add to those difficulties by exhibitions of bitterness and intolerance towards each other." Admirable advice! which, logically interpreted, means—"Let us never exhibit religion in an attitude of injustice, nor vex each other by clinging to exclusive and unjustifiable privilege."

### POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS EQUALITY.

IN an ingenious article, the *Spectator* finds fault with the speakers at the recent meeting in the Cannon-street Hotel because they "appeared to assume that no one could be properly termed a friend of religious equality who did not wish to see Established Churches disestablished and disendowed." A comparison is instituted between the principle in question and that of political equality, and we are told that on the same analogy no one could be properly termed a friend of the latter who does not advocate "the abolition of the House of Lords and of all other political distinctions between the aristocracy and the commonsalty," as well as the introduction of manhood suffrage. The illustration is an unfortunate one for the argument to be supported. For, be it observed, the point is not whether religious equality is in itself desirable or not, but whether any man can consistently profess to advocate it who also defends Church Establishments? Now, we take it to be indisputable that what is here put as a *reductio ad absurdum* is simply a statement of sober fact. Most certainly no one can, with any propriety, be called a friend of political equality who defends the political privileges of the aristocracy or those of any class of the com-



monalty. It is a contradiction to common sense to say that the peer, who is born a legislator, is politically on an equality with the labourer, whose poor ballot paper represents a ten-thousandth part of a six-hundred-and-fifty-sixth portion of the House of Commons. What then? Do we feel ourselves bound to advocate the abolition of all political privilege of every kind? Not in the least; for the simple reason that we regard political equality, of the kind suggested above, as a mere chimera, entirely unnecessary to political justice, and wholly unattainable in any social organisation conceivable to us. The truth is, political equality—that is, equality of opportunity and power for influence in the councils of the community—is often confounded with a very different thing—equal sacredness of personal rights in the eye of the law. Upon this latter, all Englishmen do strenuously insist, except where religious conviction is concerned. But upon the other and more properly political equality they do not, and probably never will. The illustration of our contemporary, therefore, tells rather against him than otherwise. If it can be shown that a man may claim to be the advocate of equal personal rights before the law, and yet may consistently defend class privileges such as those once possessed by the French aristocracy, then we may concede that a friend of religious equality may be a friend of Establishments.

The claim to the abolition of all favouritism on the part of the State in dealing with religious denominations may be defended on many grounds of expediency, and these are indeed its chief strength in political agitation. But since the ingenious argument above-mentioned is devoted rather to the purpose of showing that the abstract principle is untenable, it is worth while to state what that abstract principle is. It may be put thus. Every man's conscience, so far as it deals with the sanctions of morality, ought to be entirely and absolutely free, so far as human law is concerned. The case is very different with the practice of morality; and for obvious reasons. Conscience is, as we believe, the very nexus of the soul and God. But, whatever view may be taken of it, at any rate any successful attempt to degrade or enslave it, injures individuality of character and lowers the manhood. On the other hand, overt acts may interfere with the rights of others, and the community has a clear right to restrain them if necessary. But it will do well to be careful in the exercise of this right, especially avoiding, so far as possible, any interference with direct dictates of conscience. On the whole, it is a good rule that the community should confine its commands, or prohibitions, to matters of demonstrable advantage, lying clearly within human experience, or the range of verifiable fact. But the conscience in dealing with the sanctions of morality feels its way towards what is unknown and unknowable, except by revelation; and revelation, at least in Protestant countries is confessedly a matter for private judgment. If the State endows and favours this or that form of interpretation of revealed religion it necessarily intrudes on the peculiar province of the conscience, the ultimate sanctions of morality. And, however delicately it may manage the business, it has too clumsy a hand to avoid injury. Religious equality, therefore, belongs to the equal sacredness of personal rights, and has no analogy with the sort of political equality to which the *Spectator* refers. An Establishment, which with the authority of the State stamps one view of revelation as better than all others, necessarily does dishonour directly, and in innumerable ways indirectly to the consciences of all outsiders. Certainly to defend such an institution, while professedly advocating religious equality, is to blow hot and cold with the same breath.

It is to no purpose that the inevitable Quaker is trotted out again and set to prove the impossibility of religious equality by his grievance in being taxed for an army. For here we have to do with an overt act within the region of sub-lunary and verifiable facts of human experience.

And here the State has a right to command. But in regard to his views of Divine worship and religious doctrine, or, in other words, his ideas of the ultimate sanctions of morality, the State is bound to show as much consideration to the Quaker's conscience as to that of an archbishop. It is of no avail to say, as the *Spectator* does, that the sort of religious equality following on disestablishment would be very much less agreeable than that enjoyed by members of the Anglican Church within their own Communion vow. That may be so, in the sense that equality of responsibility is always less gratifying than equality of privilege. But really the Anglicans are not the only children of the State. And if the abolition of privilege amongst Christians is necessarily followed by the bitter schisms and sulky isolation threatened by the *Spectator*, so much the worse for modern Christianity, which is very much what States have made it. All this, however, is beside the main point we have desired to keep in view. By all means let the advocates and the opponents of religious equality give free expression to their different estimates of its value. But we must protest against any attempt to borrow the name while explaining away the thing signified. This is a stratagem continually practised by week-kneed Liberals when they find the pace of progress getting too sharp for them. In future elections we shall hear many a cry of the Establishment and religious freedom, just as we have had beer and the Bible. We have seen the effects of the latter; and a burnt child dreads the fire.

#### SCOTTISH CHURCH NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent)

You have noticed the revival in the Free Church of the Disestablishment movement, but perhaps you may not be aware of the main cause of that revival. It is the result of another threatened aggression on the part of the Conservatives and of the Established Church. The Lord Advocate, in his canvass for the seat he now occupies, threw out certain vague hints about the possibility of fresh concessions to the Free Church with a view to its reconciliation with the State; and since then, it is said that at least one important Scottish member of Parliament has been negotiating with the leading Nonconformists of Edinburgh, in the hope of persuading them that, if they will only consent to have an Establishment, they may have it upon any terms. To those who know the history of the Ten Years' Conflict, this turn of the wheel must appear nothing less than astounding. Sir Robert Peel and the Tories of his day treated the Church in so high and mighty a way, that it was obliged to go into the wilderness to maintain its respect. Now Sir Robert's successors will eat humble pie to any extent, if those whom they formerly drove out will only consent to come back again! The Free Church, however, is now much too old to be caught with chaff. She quite sees through the "beguiling" of her old enemies. She knows perfectly well that Lord Beaconsfield and his friends don't really care one pin about popular rights or spiritual independence. What they want is simply an accession to the Tory vote in Scotland, and the good people here are not so enamoured of the Disraeli dynasty as to be in the least anxious to perpetuate it. It is then with the view of letting Parliament distinctly understand how things are really situated, that the Presbyteries of the Free Church have been moved to raise anew the cry of Disestablishment. The signification of the sound you are now hearing, in fact, is just this—that (setting aside the anti-union faction, whose whole sympathies are with the State Church) the strong conviction of the Free Church is that the State cannot now inter-meddle with advantage in the ecclesiastical affairs of Scotland, except in one way—that is, by withdrawing its support from the sect which is at present enjoying its exclusive patronage.

Even in the face, however, of an adverse overwhelming majority in the Free Church, the Government may venture to move. That they would gain something is certain. There are undoubtedly some ministers in the Free Church who would step over the border at once if they had a fair excuse for doing so, and they would be followed by a proportion of their people. This would give an aspect of growing strength to the Establishment and to the Tory cause, and for the sake of that the Ministry may elect to wield the irresistible weapon of their mechanical majority. But, if they adopt that policy, the triumphing of

the wicked will be short. The gain the Church would get by accessions would be more apparent than real. The disloyal Free Churchmen who are now serving its interests within their own communion would be shorn of half their influence for evil. And the Free Church, made more homogeneous, would join with the United Presbyterians, and form a combined phalanx which no Establishment could long resist. At present, such a high-flying Orangeman as Mr. Gault is simply an embarrassment in Glasgow. If he were to go where he belongs, the Presbytery would lose an estimable man, but its ranks would be closer, and its effective force would be sensibly increased.

Sir Henry Moncrieff has given notice of a disestablishment motion which will be discussed in the Edinburgh Presbytery in a few days. Sir Henry is very strong upon the duty of the Free Church. He thinks that its providential history renders the entertainment of any idea of a reunion with the State out of the question, and he is very clear that the present Establishment is on a wrong basis and ought to cease. But he is very averse to agitation, and almost hesitates to demand disestablishment until he is able to tell the State particularly what it should do next. The idea is a crotchet, and I have no doubt Sir Henry will work himself out of it. Meantime, he has, I believe, been chosen to take the lead in this business, and he will no doubt do his part well. Notice of two counter-motions has just been given—one, a blank negative, by an anti-unionist of the reddest type—Mr. Balfour, of Holyrood; the other a proposal to refer the subject to a committee by a more moderate man, who is respected on all hands as a gentleman and a scholar—Mr. Thorburn, of Leith. I don't expect that on a division the Liberal side will appear as strong as it did in Glasgow, but the result will be practically the same. Of course Dr. Rainy will speak, and it will be of some importance to hear him in his own county. We may also hope to learn what Dr. Begg thinks of the present state of public affairs. We move slowly in Scotland; but we move. It would be premature to introduce a bill into Parliament as yet, but the time for action is clearly drawing near, and it is an immense comfort to think that there is such a man as Mr. Cowen to lead when the crisis shall arrive.

The *United Presbyterian Magazine* for March contains an excellent article on disestablishment, in which the earlier voluntary controversy, and recent ecclesiastical events in Scotland bearing on the subject, are reviewed. Volunteers are especially urged to disseminate their principles at this juncture, and it is strongly recommended that, in the coming settlement for Scotland, the example of Ireland should be especially eschewed, so that the clergy may not be allowed to receive an inordinate share of Church property.

#### THE HATCHAM CASE.

By the advice of his medical adviser, the Rev. Arthur Tooth has left for the South of Italy to recruit his health.

We have received from the Vicar of St. James's, Hatcham, with a view to publication, a copy of the correspondence between his churchwardens and himself. Messrs. Croom and Plimpton asked Mr. Tooth's advice as to the course he would now advise them to take. In the course of his reply that clergyman says:—

To ask you to forego your rights is more than I have a claim to demand, but as far as my wish is concerned I venture to express the hope that you should abstain, as a congregation, from attending your parish church for fear of riot and confusion. Your coming would be to maintain your right to the fabric of the church. The services, unhappily, are nothing to you. It is true they are conducted by one who claims to be a High Churchman, who turns his back on the people, observes the Festivals of the Saints, and collects the offertory in coloured bags, which may possibly vary with the season of the year, but you have long since learnt that ritual, more or less, is no qualification for the cure of souls; you know that it is absolutely impossible for you in any way to recognise one who offends against a fundamental principle of Church government, one whom I might have been willing to welcome as a fellow worker in the parish if he had come under other circumstances. You can never accept services which are in themselves schismatical, and would involve the admission that a lay court has power to suspend a priest from the exercise of his office. But these wrongs will never be adjusted while riot and confusion prevail. And in asking you to bear a real grievance, and even to forego your rights, I do but ask you to adopt the policy I have made my own. As long as there is any risk of violence and a "brawl" in church, I am willing to be silent, and acknowledge the advantage which "police force" has; but, short of this, it is my intention at the first opportunity to preach and celebrate, not elsewhere in my parish, but in my own pulpit and at my own altar.

Acting in accordance with the wish above expressed, the bulk of his adherents refrained from attending the morning services on Sunday. Indeed, if the number of Ritualists in the church were to be gauged by the absence of such proofs of their presence as have existed on previous Sundays, they might almost be counted on the fingers of one hand.



In spite of this diminution in the numbers of one section of the ordinary attendants at the church, the congregation was a very large one. The service, conducted by Mr. Dale alone, was proceeded with without any interruption from beginning to end, there being much less opening and shutting of doors than formerly. In consequence, probably, of his being unassisted, and of his having two more services to perform, Mr. Dale did not read the Communion, but ascended the pulpit immediately after the completion of the hymn that followed the Litany. No disturbance of any kind occurred outside the church, which the congregation rapidly and quietly quitted.

It is stated that the Council of the English Church Union have decided to take legal proceedings against the Bishop of Rochester for breaking open or causing to be broken open St. James's Church, Hatcham.

#### THE DIFFICULTIES OF "CHURCH DEFENCE."

An article in the *Liberator* on "The New Liberation Societies" lately formed within the Church Establishment, contains the following passage:—

What is, or will be, the effect of all these proceedings of dissatisfied Churchmen, on what is known as the cause of "Church Defence"? We turn to the pages of the *National Church* for last month for some evidence on the point; and what we do find relative to the agitation within the Establishment which is so obviously placing it in peril? Simply nothing! The editor is so conscious of the danger of discussing the "burning questions" which make the pages of all the other Church journals almost lurid, that he ignores them—ignores them to such an extent, that you won't find even so much as the name of Mr. Tooth mentioned! That is one unquestionable sign of the embarrassments which now beset the cause of "Church Defence." Another is the evident unwillingness of the general body of Churchmen to rally round the standard of "Church Defence." The *National Church* practically admits this, by its incessant attempts to alarm and excite them, and to induce them to subscribe. Last month, for instance, it described the energy with which the disestablishment movement is carried on, and did not wonder at the self-confidence of its supporters, since "there is everything to encourage it of late." On the other hand, "Churchmen are defeated, because, while their opponents are active, obedient, and united, they are without any real organisation for such purposes [school board elections] whatever." "The Church finds herself suddenly called upon to face new and unlooked-for emergencies, and she must be prepared to form new and adequate machinery to meet them."

Indeed! when a "Church Defence Institution" exists, and has—we are told—hundreds of local organisations throughout the country! Is the "Church Defence" movement, then, a confessed failure? It looks like it; especially when we are told that "when organisation for Church Defence is urged, every kind of excuse is made for inaction," and these excuses are "disastrous." "Political dissent" is strong because "admirably organised." While the Church "is an unorganised mob," and until there be improvement in that respect, Churchmen "will be beaten again and again in every contest, and that deservedly."

Nothing but the consciousness of increasing weakness would have prompted such bitter confessions.

#### CHURCH OPINIONS ON INDEPENDENCE AND DISESTABLISHMENT.

We recently announced that a Disestablishment League has been formed among some of the advanced clergy with the view of taking immediate action all over the country. A private circular relating to this subject has been issued, addressed to the principal Ritualistic clergy and laity throughout the country. The following are extracts from the circular and the printed report:—At two preliminary meetings, held in London, it has been agreed unanimously to form a league with the object of promoting the freedom of the Church of England in spiritual matters from State control; and, secondly, that the only way of effecting this object is by the separation of Church and State. It was decided that no reasons should be stated in the constitution, but the tracts and pamphlets should be published and distributed, and that meetings should be held to promote the object of the league, when it will be supported by such various reasons as may recommend themselves to different individuals. A provisional committee, consisting of fifteen priests, was appointed, a superior and secretary were chosen until May, when it is hoped a larger number of Churchmen will meet together to complete the constitution of the league. It was arranged that a superior general (being a bishop or priest), twelve clergy, and twelve laymen, with treasurer and secretary, should be then elected as a council.

Earl Nelson, in a letter to the *Guardian*, deprecates any such action as that referred to above. He thinks it is not called for by the circumstances, and that disestablishment would mean the eventual overthrow of the monarchy and the formation of two new sects, exceeding bitter against each other, and each claiming to be the true representative of the old historic Church of England.

Although Convocation (says his lordship) is not all that it ought to be, a great advance has been made upon the time of its forced suppression. The present Privy Council Court of Final Appeal is again a great advance upon the old High Commission. And the Public Worship Regulation Act itself is a great advance upon the Act of Uniformity, which provided an appeal to the magistrates at petty sessions on the representation of one parishioner. It also contains two provisions directly in favour of the separate action of the spirituality—the Episcopal veto, and the power

to judge *in forum domesticum* on parties consenting to such jurisdiction without appeal. None can regret more than myself that the Government ever had anything to do with the measure, as it was a mistake in the latter half of the nineteenth century to make more easy the strict enforcement of uniformity by penal enactment. But even this Act cannot be quoted as a fresh aggression of the secular power upon the Church. The archbishops and the majority of the bishops distinctly asked for it from the Government, and must be alone held responsible for the consequences of it. Of these consequences, however, I have no fear if we only have patience. After, it may be, much excitement, much hindrance of good work for Christ, much unwise interference with peaceable congregations, common sense must prevail, and the enforcement of the Act must lead to its final repeal or amendment.

In the midst of all this excitement, the true recognition of the constitutional power of the spirituality under the Crown is daily advancing, and the time is at hand when we may fairly demand that distinct recognition of the rights of the spirituality under the Crown which is undoubtedly the constitutional right of the Church of England, and which has long been clearly defined and acted upon in the Scottish Establishment. This would be a *modus vivendi* far preferable, both for Church and State, to the remedy proposed by Mr. Bryan King and his friends.

A meeting of the English Church Union was held last week, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, under the presidency of the Hon. C. L. Wood, who, referring to the criticisms made on the resolutions passed at their great meeting on the Hatcham case in January last, the speaker said that the Public Worship Regulation Act had compelled them to look their difficulties in the face, and he firmly believed that they would be able to overcome their difficulties. The root of the question lay in the fact that the Judicial Committee assumed the power to decide in the doctrines of the Church. In all these struggles it was with the Privy Council that they were brought face to face. Their critics had said that the Judicial Committee was identically like the Court of Delegates, but that was not the case, for the Court of Delegates consisted of Churchmen, while the Judicial Committee would consist of men of no religion at all. The Judicial Committee acted on the principle that the Christian religion was only preached from the time of Edward VI.; or, as Lord Penzance said, the Church of England was established only in that reign. It was said that the Privy Council does not decide doctrine, but the case of "Jenkins v. Cook" proved the contrary. He contended that the Church of England should have the same freedom as the Established Presbyterian Church of Scotland, whose General Assembly had a supreme and exclusive jurisdiction over all the ecclesiastical cases in Scotland. Convocation was the General Assembly of the English Church, and ought to be restored to its proper position. To gain that point they must work hard and patiently, and he believed that in the end they would gain the day; if not he saw no other course than disestablishment. The main features of the ritual now in dispute were closely connected with the doctrines of the Church, so that it was impossible to surrender the one without compromising the other. In conclusion, he would state that since the beginning of the year, 1,183 new members had joined the Union—(loud cheers)—and the resolution passed at their January meeting had been adopted by 144 branch unions, with only six dissentients. (Cheers.) They were all aware that Mr. Tooth had been let out of prison, and the persons who were most pleased to let him out were those who put him in. (Laughter.)

At a meeting held at St. Albans on Thursday to express sympathy with the Rev. A. Tooth, the Rev. A. H. Mackenzie, who presided, said that in spite of the guarantees by charters and Acts of Parliament of the liberty of the Church of England, there had been exhibited a tendency and disposition of the State to infringe upon the rights of the subject in regard to spiritual matters, which was shown by the passing of the Public Worship Regulation Act—(Hear, hear)—under which Mr. Tooth had been imprisoned. If he were now set free it was not because the Act was less objectionable than they thought it ought to be, but because those who put him in prison were only too glad to get him out again. (Loud cheers.) They had met together to express sympathy with Mr. Tooth, whose followers were greatly increased by the proceedings of the last three months. (Applause.) They were met to join their voices to that cry which was ringing throughout England, viz., to assert their conviction that if the Church of England was to exist it must be by asserting her spiritual independence of the State. (Cheers.) They were loyal subjects and would obey constitutional laws; but when an Act was passed in the very teeth of our constitution, and guarantees that had been made part of it were not acted upon, then they ventured to say, in the language of the old statutes, that it was "null and void," and they intended to oppose it. (Applause.) The following resolutions were then carried:—

1. That this meeting desires to express its deep sympathy with the Rev. Arthur Tooth under the fanatical persecution he has been called upon to suffer, and to tender him its best thanks for his valiant defence of the spiritual liberties of the Church of England. The imprisonment, for conscience' sake, of a priest of acknowledged zeal and spotless character is, in the opinion of this meeting, a reproach to the boasted civilisation of the nineteenth century.

2. That the best thanks of this meeting be tendered to Messrs. Croom and Plimpton, the churchwardens of St. James's, Hatcham, for their cordial co-operation with the vicar of the parish in his efforts to resist the encroachments of the State in matters spiritual.

3. That the violent breaking open of the Church of St. James's, Hatcham, and the unlawful seizure of the building by the authority or with the cognisance of the Bishop of Rochester, was an infringement on the rights of the vicar and an outrage on the congregation, and consequently the Church at large.

4. That the intrusion of the Rev. Benjamin Dale into the spiritual charge of the Church of St. James's, Hatcham, is a non-canonical and schismatical proceeding, and in the opinion of this meeting the congregation of that church are justified in resisting such a gross violation of ecclesiastical discipline.

On St. Matthias' Day, the anniversary of Bishop Wordsworth's consecration, Bishop Alnwick's tower in the old Episcopal Palace at Lincoln was opened for the use of the theological students as a lecture-room. At a subsequent luncheon, the Bishop of Lincoln pointed out how in all ages of the Church God had brought good out of evil, and said that the way to remove existing evils was certainly not to disobey the law. He added:—

There are those who, in their indignation at the power now exercised by the State and the Church, go so far as to wish to sweep away the royal supremacy. I have entire sympathy with those gentlemen in their feelings of distress under existing circumstances, but not in the way they manifest it. If we resist the power existing by law we certainly shall have reprisals. If the royal supremacy is abolished what will happen then? Why, the times of Martin will return. Pius IX. is quite prepared to be a second Hildebrand or Martin V., and send an English cardinal—Cardinal Manning or Howard—to browbeat the archbishop and tread our Church under foot. Or, to take the other side, are those who would resist the royal supremacy prepared for such scenes as have occurred in the synod of the disestablished Church of Ireland, where fox-hunting country squires are put on the same level and have an equal vote with the archbishop? Are they prepared for that which would be a certain consequence of disestablishment—to sweep away the resident clergy from the agricultural parishes, and give over the rural population to heathenism? The evils we suffer from are real, but they are as molehills to mountains compared with those that would follow on disestablishment.

The following letter from the Bishop of Lichfield has been received by the Secretary to the Manchester Church Committee, in reply to a request that he would support the proposal for a special Parliamentary commission of inquiry regarding the state of the law as affecting recent ecclesiastical decisions:—

February 24.

Dear Sir,—In my place in Convocation I have steadily advocated a revision of the disputed rubrics, with a view to greater toleration and mutual forbearance. Your petition truly states that no legislation on such matters has taken place since 1662. It is time, therefore, that legislative changes should take place; but that the initiative should be taken, not in the House of Commons, but in Convocation. The law is not to blame, nor the courts, nor even the prosecutors, but the Legislature, which, both in Church and State, has neglected its duty of making the law clear. In the blame of this neglect I fear that the clergy themselves must take a large share, the violence of party feeling having been the chief hindrance to wise and tolerant legislation. I return the stamped wrapper, as being unable to take any part in this movement, which I think is in a wrong direction.—Yours very faithfully,  
—G. A. LICHFIELD.

The Rev. Canon Ashwell (the author of the article in the *Church Quarterly* recently noticed in our columns) lectured last week at Manchester on "What are Church and State?" A quotation from his remarks on the theory he propounded may be useful:—

He challenged anyone to show that anybody ever established or endowed the Church. The Church was not established by anyone. It grew; it established itself. The Church as a body was not endowed at this moment. The only endowment which the Church of England had as a body, if they could so describe it, consisted in a certain quantity of plunder which the Ecclesiastical Commission had taken from the deans and chapters of cathedrals, and some of the richer bishoprics, and flung them pot luck into the Ecclesiastical Commission, to deal them out again in fragments. If the ghosts of those who had given endowments for specific purposes in particular parishes could revisit the earth he fancied he could hear them say, "I never gave this or that to the Church as a central body. I gave it to that parish, and you have no right to steal it." Church and State were equally God's creation. The State was God's agent in keeping men in order for their good upon the temporal side. The Church was God's organisation for training up man on the spiritual side. He asked any unprejudiced person, who in the world could imagine that these two powers should ever think of differing? As each had its own line, and as that line only embraced a part of mankind, and as the two lines together included the whole, who in the world would ever think of parting Church and State any more than attempt to part soul and body? The two things must interlace, because both had reference to the same subject. They worked by different methods, the State by force, the Church by persuasion. Persuasion without power was robbed of its force. Force without persuasion was bound to fail. The Church of England and the State had grown up together, and the constitution of the union of Church and State was not formed by two persons coming together, but it arose out of the exigencies of the case, and had existed for 1,200 years. Who was the man who would break up rashly the connection which God had been forming during these 1,200 years? The law of the land as made by Parliament might bind the State, but it did not bind the Church. He quote a passage from a judgment of Baron Alderson, in which he laid down the proposition that no alteration in the discipline or the doctrine of the Church can be made without the consent of the Church in Convocation, and afterwards confirmed or rejected by Parliament. He held, therefore, that they stood upon the lines of the constitution in claiming independence for the Church.



## THE DISESTABLISHMENT MOVEMENT.

DR. MELLOR AT HUDDERSFIELD AND BRADFORD.

The Rev. Dr. Mellor, of Halifax, delivered his lecture, "Why Meddle?" on Tuesday of last week at Huddersfield, and on Thursday at Bradford. The first was delivered in the Gymnasium Hall, which was filled. The chair was occupied by the Mayor of Huddersfield (Mr. Alderman Woodhead), and there were on the platform the Revs. R. Bruce, M.A., J. T. Stannard, A. Holliday, Aldermen Wright Mellor, D. Sykes, Denham, Byram, Councillors G. H. Hanson, J. Haigh, B. Halstead, J. Brooke, J. Eccles, and a number of other general local supporters of the Liberation Society. The Mayor, in the course of his opening remarks, said that there were many excellent and worthy English people who told them that the settlement of the State-Church question ought to be left to those who were not simply members of a church by law, but who belonged to it of their own free choice. They did not agree with that opinion. The advocates of religious liberty in the past, and the advocates of religious equality in the present, had meddled with it, and they intended to meddle with it until it be finally and equitably settled. The reasons why they thus ought to meddle he now called upon Dr. Mellor to give. (Applause.) The lecture, of which we gave a report when it was delivered at Southport, was received with great applause. At the close the Rev. R. Bruce, M.A., moved, and Alderman D. Sykes seconded, a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and the resolution was heartily adopted. Dr. Mellor, in reply, said he should be glad at some future time to deliver another lecture in Huddersfield. (Applause.) He moved a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, which was duly seconded and acknowledged.

At Bradford there was a large attendance in St. George's Hall. Mr. Briggs Priestley presided; and amongst those present were Messrs. T. Salt, G. P. Beaumont, Joseph Craven, James Cole, Ald. Storey, F. Priestman, I. Smith, J. Hill, J. Taylor; the Revs. T. G. Horton, J. Haley, B. Wood, March Timson, J. Innes, G. Dyson, J. W. Knapton, W. E. Goodman; Dr. J. Willis; Messrs. L. Robertshaw, T. D. Tordoff, Henry Snowden, James Hanson, B. Illingworth, Thomas Baines, W. Bunting, A. Briggs, J. Gill, E. E. Wadsworth, E. Thomas, &c. The Chairman said that the State-Church question was becoming the great question that had to be fought in the immediate future between Liberalism and Conservatism. (Applause.) A few years ago it was not considered important for any gentleman who was a candidate for a seat in Parliament to express his views on disestablishment, but now it was necessary, except perhaps in the case of a pocket-borough like Wilton. (Hear, hear.) That was a sign that the movement was making progress. Other questions which used to be in the Liberal programme had been to a considerable extent cleared away, and disestablishment was undoubtedly the one to the front. On that question Bradford ought to be well educated. They had had the honour in Bradford—and were proud of it—of having sent to Parliament the greatest advocate of the movement—(applause)—and now that that gentleman had been laid aside by infirmities, he rejoiced to know that others, such as the lecturer of that night, were ready to come forward and take his place. (Hear, hear.) He was sure that Bradford would be ready to do its part on the question when the time came, and he hoped they would do as well as Dr. Mellor's own borough had done. (Applause.) At the conclusion of Dr. Mellor's lecture, which the local *Observer* reports at considerable length, and was evidently greatly relieved by the large audience, Mr. James Cole moved a resolution expressing the thanks of the meeting to the lecturer, declaring the deep conviction of those who were present that the national Establishment of religion was not only an established injustice, but was opposed to the civil and religious freedom of the people, and pledging them to do what they could to bring about the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of England. Mr. Benj. Illingworth seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Dr. Mellor, in reply, said that he hoped in the course of a few months to have ready another lecture, treating the subject from another point of view, and in which he should treat of that grand imposture which was called the continuity of the Church. (Hear, hear.)

## MR. FISHER'S LECTURES.

QUEEN'S ROAD, BAYSWATER. — Mr. Fisher delivered a lecture in the Church Schoolroom on Monday evening, on the "Union of the Church and State opposed to the Letter and Spirit of the New Testament." There was an appreciative audience, and Mr. Fisher was urgently requested to deliver a lecture on the political aspects of the disestablishment question.

BRENTFORD. — On Tuesday Mr. Fisher lectured in the Town Hall here. A local report says:—"The hall was well filled by an audience evidently interested in the subject from more points than one, and the lecturer was followed in his arguments with approval mingled with dissent. Mr. C. J. Cross occupied the chair. The Chairman spoke with great candour upon the subject of the address, remarking that there was much misunderstanding felt as to the true objects of the Liberation Society. Many of his dearest friends in Brentford were members of the Church of England, but he should not the less avow his opinions, which were

certainly in favour of disestablishment. The Liberation Society had done good service, and was destined to secure greater triumphs. At the close of the lecture it appeared that there was a minority in favour of Establishment present, and there was a discussion. At the close a vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed, coupled with approval of disestablishment. An amendment coupling the vote of thanks with disapproval of disestablishment was put, but the original motion was carried by a good majority amidst cries of 'Oh' and applause."

WOOLWICH. — Mr. Fisher delivered a lecture in the Alexandra Hall on Thursday evening, on "The Right of the Nation to deal with her Ecclesiastical Endowments." J. E. Saunders, Esq., occupied the chair, and opened the meeting in an able speech. Notwithstanding that there were other meetings of an attractive character in the town, there was a large and respectable audience. After the lecture, which was well heard throughout, the Rev. Mr. Barker and others opposed, and were answered to the satisfaction of the meeting. Very cordial votes brought a successful meeting to a close.

## MR. GORDON'S MEETINGS.

TORRINGTON, NEAR BIDEFORD. — On Monday night last Mr. Gordon lectured in the Town Hall, Torrington, Mr. Handford presiding. There was a good audience and a hearty hearing.

BARNSTAPLE. — On Tuesday evening Mr. Gordon lectured in the Music Hall, Barnstaple, the Rev. Alex. Macdonald in the chair. There was an improved attendance on previous meetings. Some young men made themselves conspicuous by creating a noise.

WIVELISCOMBE. — On Wednesday evening Mr. Gordon lectured in the Town Hall, Wiveliscombe, the Rev. Mr. Adams presiding. This was a first meeting, but there was a full house and capital hearing.

SOUTH MOLTON. — On Thursday evening Mr. Gordon lectured in the Town Hall, South Molton, the Rev. J. Smith, who was well supported by other ministers, in the chair. There was a large attendance and some opposition, though not of a serious nature. But for an exciting trial, which was kept up till after the meeting, the hall would have been crowded out.

BIDEFORD. — On Friday evening Mr. Gordon lectured in the Public Rooms, Bideford, where a large and respectable audience assembled, and gave the lecturer a cordial hearing. The Rev. Mr. Meakin presided, and all the Nonconformist ministers of the town were present.

## LECTURES BY THE REV. W. DORLING.

WORCESTER. — The Rev. W. Dorling, of Buckhurst Hill, London, lectured in the Music Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 27, to a good company. The Rev. J. Lewitt presided, and in terse and happy terms commended the Liberation Society and its work. The lecturer spoke of our privileges in belonging to a nation with a glorious past, and in speaking of "Great Men and Great Times: Memories and Lessons," introduced the names of Cromwell, Milton, Baxter, Owen, Howe, Bunyan, and others, as men who had embalmed their names and deeds in the memories of a grateful people; and urged all present to watch with jealous care the liberties so hardly won by the worthies of a bygone age. Mr. G. Hastings moved, and the Rev. W. G. Heritage seconded the following resolution:—"That this meeting, sympathising with the principle of religious equality as taught in the New Testament, desires to enter its protest against a State Establishment of religion, and looks hopefully forward to the time when our religious liberties shall develop into full and unconditional religious equality." The resolution was carried with great enthusiasm.

WELLINGTON, SALOP. — On Wednesday evening, Feb. 28, the Rev. W. Dorling discoursed on "The Plea for Religious Equality," in the Town Hall, the Rev. J. Jones in the chair. There was a good attendance, including a very noisy element of Church Defenders from Dawley, &c., led on by the curate of that place. Mr. Dorling was frequently interrupted by hisses and yelling, but bravely held his ground, contending for the principle of equality in all matters of conscience. The aforesaid curate at the close of Mr. Dorling's address contended for the right to speak, but from previous experience of this gentleman and his tactics, the chairman was advised to bring the meeting to a close, which was done. A Defence meeting is spoken of.

DUDLEY. — A public meeting, numerously attended, was held in the Mechanics Hall on Thursday, March 1, when the Rev. W. Dorling, of London, and Mr. G. Hastings, of Birmingham, attended as a deputation from the Liberation Society. The Rev. J. Graham occupied the chair. Mr. Dorling spoke of the past struggles for freedom in things spiritual, and pointed to the danger which threatened those liberties by the Establishment containing within it those who sought to subject the civil authority to the dominion of a corrupt ecclesiasticism. Mr. Hastings dwelt upon the rights of British citizens to investigate all institutions of a truly national character, proving that the Established clergy are equally officers of the State as are our generals, admirals, and judges. The Rev. W. Spurgeon also spoke in support of the society's objects. The Rev. Mr. Harper, head master of the Grammar School, followed in opposition, but was satisfactorily answered by Mr. Hastings as was testified by the applause of the meeting. A general wish was expressed for another meeting.

## OTHER LECTURES.

WENDOVER. — Mr. Thomas Crawley, of South-end, formerly an inhabitant of Wendover, lectured here on Monday evening of last week on "A Plea for Disestablishment." Mr. Scrivener, of Weston Turville, presided. The report of Mr. Crawley's lecture occupies four columns in the *Bucks Advertiser*. Mr. Crawley treated his subject with vigour and comprehensiveness, and the lecture was extremely well received by the audience, and spoken highly of by subsequent speakers—Mr. Stevens and the Rev. W. Dickenson.

KILSBY. — A lecture was given in the Independent Schoolroom on Wednesday evening last by the Rev. J. B. Heard, M.A., Mr. Nunneley, of the Grove, Ashby St. Ledgers, presided. The rev. lecturer said it was not from theological but from political reasons he had left the Church of England, and that in coming among them he was not sent by any society.

EVERTON. — Mr. Walter Bathgate gave an address here last Friday, when there was a good attendance, the Rev. F. H. Roberts presiding. The *Liverpool Mercury* states that Mr. Bathgate was listened to with great interest.

HYSON GREEN. — The Rev. L. H. Jackson, of Ripley, lectured here, on Thursday, to a good audience, the Rev. E. D. Cornish presiding, and a good addition made to the list of subscribers to the Liberation Society.

ARNESBY, NEAR LEICESTER. — The Rev. E. Hipwood, of Kibworth, lectured in the Baptist Chapel on Tuesday, Feb. 27, the Rev. W. Fisk in the chair. There was a good attendance, and much interest apparent.

LOUGHBOROUGH. — A meeting of the subscribers to the Liberation Society was held on Tuesday, Feb. 20, in the large vestry adjoining the Woodgate Baptist Chapel. There was a very good attendance, and real work done. Mr. Godkin, chairman of the school board, was called to the chair. On the motion of the Rev. J. Lemon, seconded by the Rev. — Alcorn, it was resolved that the subscribers form themselves into an auxiliary of the Liberation Society, that Mr. A. A. Bumpus be secretary, and Mr. Wheeldon assistant secretary. It was also decided that, in addition to direct co-operation in the work of the Liberation Society, the object of this auxiliary shall be to take up, as need may be, all Nonconformist questions of a local character. The tone of the meeting was good throughout, and much hope is entertained that efficient aid will be rendered in the promotion of Free-Church objects in the town and the populous villages in the neighbourhood of Loughborough.

WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD. — The Rev. G. S. Reaney, of Reading, has lectured in these places, with good attendance, on the Tooth case. Mr. Reaney held that it was not for conscience' sake that Mr. Tooth had suffered imprisonment. The *Windsor Express* gives a good report of the lecture there.

Eucharistic vestments are worn in forty London churches.

HALIFAX VICAR'S RATE BILL. — In the House of Lords on Monday, on the motion of the Earl of Redesdale, this bill was read a third time and passed.

THE BURIALS BILL. — The Duke of Richmond and Gordon gave notice last night that on Tuesday next he would introduce a bill to consolidate and amend the Burial Acts, and at the same time explain the bill and make a statement.

A COSTLY PRIVILEGE (?). — At Torquay there are a number of persons calling themselves a "Society for the Rejection of the Burials Bill," who are publishing exciting advertisements, headed "Burial a national duty," and insisting that, even if the creation of new cemeteries would cost millions, "such a consideration should not deter us from doing what is right and just"—that duty of course being to leave the parish burial-grounds a clerical monopoly.

AN EPISCOPAL RETREAT. — We understand that the Bishop of London has declined to interfere with the services at St. Ethelburga, Bishopsgate, as carried on by the rector, or to withdraw the licence of the curate, as requested by the churchwardens. The bishop, we believe, plainly intimated that he did not approve of ecclesiastical prosecutions, and had no desire to create another Hatcham scandal in his diocese. We believe there are but six resident parishioners in St. Ethelburga's, but the Church is crowded twice on Sundays, and has daily services during Lent, which are largely attended by City men.—*John Bull*.

CREDITABLE TO THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS! — The Ecclesiastical Commissioners are the owners of the land on which the Pastors' College is built, and the trustees of that institution wishing to obtain the freehold, they have readily agreed to sell; so Mr. Spurgeon has sent a letter from Mentone, saying:—"As we often hear of instances of refusal to sell to Dissenters on the part of the great ones of the earth, it is only right to let it be known that the conduct of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to us has been all that could be desired. We pay a handsome and an adequate price for what we purchase of them, but they might have refused to sell had there been any intolerance towards us."—*Freeman*.

THE POPE'S EPISCOPAL JUBILEE. — On Sunday a brief letter from Cardinal Manning addressed to the "faithful" in this country was read in all the Roman Catholic churches and chapels throughout his archdiocese, announcing that on June 3 next



the "Episcopal Jubilee" of the Holy Father would be celebrated, and that a deputation from the English Roman Catholic Episcopate, the priesthood, and the laity would proceed to Rome on that occasion to present to the Holy Father the congratulations and other tokens of the affection of the members of his Church. It appears that Pius IX. was consecrated to the Archbishopric of Spoleto, in Italy, on June 3, 1827, now nearly fifty years ago, and just nineteen years before his elevation to the Papal chair.

**THE RITUALISTS AND THE CONGE D'ELIRE.**—At the meeting of the English Church Union held last week at the Freemasons' Tavern, a motion proposed by the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie was carried unanimously, asserting that the bill to abolish the "congé d'élire" brought into the House of Commons should be strenuously resisted on the ground that, instead of restoring to the Church her just rights in regard to the election of bishops, it proposes to abolish the important witness to those rights which still remains in the issue of the "congé d'élire"; and declaring the opinion of the meeting that an earnest effort should be made to obtain such an alteration of the law as will give the clergy and laity of the diocese a real voice in the appointment of their bishops.

**HYMNS AND HERESY.**—At a meeting of the Edinburgh Free Presbytery on Wednesday, the Rev. Mr. Morgan moved the transmission to the Assembly of an overture which set forth that the hymn-book was inadequate and defective, and that steps should be taken to get it enlarged or improved, or that permission should be granted to congregations to use the hymn-book of some other Church. A lively discussion ensued, and on a division an amendment, proposed by Sir Henry Moncreiff, that the overture be not in present circumstances transmitted, was carried by a majority of eighteen to fifteen. During the discussion Dr. Begg declared that when hymns were introduced into a church people could not sing them, and then the minister had to get a "hurdy-gurdy" to keep up the music. More heresy, the rev. doctor said, had been introduced into the Church in connection with psalmody than by any other means, and it was just one mode of slipping into Popery.

**THE FALMOUTH RECTOR'S RATE.**—Under an Act of Parliament passed in the reign of Charles II., by which the parish of Falmouth was constituted, the rectory is endowed with a rate of sixteen pence in the pound on the value of all houses and buildings. As the town increases, so the amount of the rate goes up, and it is now more than twenty times its original figure, realising about eighteen hundred pounds a year. This impost has long been felt to be a very serious grievance, and many attempts have been made to get rid of it. On Monday night an indignation meeting was held in the Town Hall, convened by the Mayor (Mr. T. Webber) on the requisition of 150 ratepayers. The mayor presided, and recommended that the plan adopted at Halifax should be followed, a committee appointed, and a bill framed to do away with the impost. It was resolved that the rate, as levied, was detrimental to the best interests of the Church; that a petition should be presented to Parliament asking its approval of a scheme to get rid of this rate on an equitable basis; and that a committee should be appointed.

**AN EXCELLENT PRACTICAL SOLUTION OF THE BURIALS PROBLEM.**—The Duke of Bedford, having got in Devonshire a Liberal bishop—Dr. Temple—and as it seems, a Liberal incumbent in Tavistock, has found the true solution of the practical problem—not, of course, of the legal problem, which only the Legislature can solve—of the burial question. He has laid out a new cemetery for Tavistock with only one chapel, and in this chapel both the Dissenters and the Churchmen are to have the burial service they approve read by a minister of their own church; and this cemetery he is going to transfer to a burial board. We trust the burial board will not listen to proposals for building another chapel and for separating the ground into a consecrated and unconsecrated portion. The law must be speedily changed, and it is clearly better to anticipate a change which has already received the sanction of most reasonable people, than to put Tavistock to a useless expense, the need for which might soon disappear, and the only tendency of which would be to estrange from each other those who ought to be cordial friends.—*Spectator*.

**A NEW HIGH-CHURCH GRIEVANCE.**—With reference to the appointment of Bishop Beckles to superintend the English Episcopalian congregations in Scotland, the *Standard* says that a memorial to the Bishop of London, in whose diocese Bishop Beckles is beneficed, is in contemplation by the High-Church party, in opposition to what they consider a new schism. The *Guardian* is very wroth on the subject. It accuses the English congregations of "schism"—of withdrawing from "their proper legal overseers"—of invading the Scotch dioceses, &c., although by the Canons of 1604 the Church of England recognises the Church of Scotland to be as true a branch of Christ's Catholic Church as it claims to be itself. To the *Guardian's* expression of doubt whether "the great Evangelical party" can approve of such an act, a clerical correspondent of the *Record* declares that all who value religious truth "will cordially rejoice at the step which has been taken by our Evangelical brethren in Scotland in obtaining the services of so excellent a chief pastor as Bishop Beckles, during his missionary labours in South Africa, has proved himself to be."

**SCOTCH FAST DAYS.**—This was the principal subject discussed at the monthly meeting of the Free Church Presbytery of Glasgow on Thursday. Dr. Adam introduced the debate by proposing a motion to the effect that, "while fully recognising the fact that fast-days have no express Divine warrant, and thus stand on a footing altogether different from the Sabbath, and not less fully admitting the too prevalent neglect and abuse of them which prevail, the Presbytery feel themselves precluded from taking or advising any step adverse to their continuance" by a number of considerations which he duly specified. Professor Candlish proposed a counter motion, in which he asked the Presbytery to express grave doubts whether the evils and abuses connected with fast-days notoriously prevalent in large commercial towns "be not of such magnitude, and so irremediable in their character, that it would be better for the interests of religion that the communion seasons and services should in some way be dissociated from these holidays in large towns." Mr. Urquhart proposed a third motion, maintaining that Divine authority could be pleaded for the observance of fast-days; but when put to the vote against Professor Candlish's, this resolution was rejected by twelve votes against eight. A division was then taken on the deliverances framed by Dr. Adam and Dr. Candlish, when the former's was carried by thirty-five votes against twelve.

**THE FOLKESTONE RITUAL CASE.**—The judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the Folkestone ritual case is naturally anticipated with great interest by both parties in the Church. The charges against Mr. Ridsdale embraced almost every point in dispute between the two sections. The practices for which the reverend gentleman frankly admitted his responsibility pretty nearly covered the entire ground of ritualistic ceremonial; and therefore the Church Association or its advisers exhibited considerable acuteness in instituting a prosecution which, if carried to a successful issue, could hardly fail to simplify their subsequent proceedings against other Ritualistic clergymen. If Lord Penzance's judgment should be substantially confirmed by the superior court, it is believed that many prosecutions of individual clergymen will at once be instituted, and that a final decision having thus been pronounced, the law will be easily and economically enforced in all these cases. It remains to be seen whether this anticipation will be verified by the result; but, in the meanwhile, we learn that the report of the five prelates, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, who took part in the appeal in the character of assessors, will be in the hands of the Lord Chancellor on Wednesday next.—*Daily News*. [The *Record* explains that the report of the Episcopal assessors will have reference only to certain questions to which specific replies are requested, and that there is no probability of the judgment being given before Easter. A few days ago Lord Penzance said it was not likely to be delivered for two months.]

**ROMAN CATHOLICS AND POLITICS.**—The Duke of Norfolk presided on Thursday at a crowded assembly of the Catholic Union, called to discuss the question of the registration of Catholic voters. The Marquis of Ripon, the Earl of Gainsborough, Lord Petre, and Lord Lovat were among the gentlemen present. The Duke of Norfolk said that in order to meet the strong views expressed at the last meeting the Council had unanimously resolved that a new committee should be appointed, to consist of eleven members, which should have for its object to encourage and assist local Catholic societies, and to aid in their formation by information and advice. This committee might have a secretary, but should have no register of its own, nor undertake itself the formation of a register, nor allow anyone in its employment to make or defend claims for individual voters, nor take any part whatever in any election, in preparation for an election, or in the recommendation or support of any candidate. Having agreed to that scheme, the Council would accept Major Prendergast's motion, which was as follows:—"That the general committee is convinced of the necessity of promoting throughout the country the formation of Catholic associations, with a view to secure the presence on boards of guardians of suitable persons who will protect and further the interests of our helpless poor." A two hours' debate followed, and ended in the unanimous adoption of the scheme. The Marquis of Ripon, in supporting the compromise, said he earnestly wished all Catholics would take a well-considered part in politics. He himself was a party man, and was not about to abandon that position.

**THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH.**—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"The triennial elections of the moiety of the Consistories and the Presbyterian Councils of the Reformed Church, ordered by M. Dufaure, on the eve of his resigning the Ministry of Worship, have just been concluded, and the result does not render any compromise possible between the orthodox and Liberal sections. As a rule, the Liberal congregations conform to the declaration of attachment to the Church and revealed truth which was imposed by the synod of 1872, as a condition of the suffrage, and was laid down by M. Dufaure as essential to valid elections. Their motive for this concession was that otherwise the elective bodies would not be recognised by the Government, and could not fill up vacancies in the pastorate. They were careful, however, to state that they still repudiated the ordination test prescribed by the synod, and deprecated any convening of a fresh synod unless, indeed, there was a fair

prospect of its relaxing or rescinding that test. A few consistories refused even this concession, and held elections in disregard of the electoral qualification, with the intention, if necessary, of maintaining their validity before the Council of State. The orthodox congregations, of course, uniformly enforced the qualification, and in one or two cases are said to have shown some chagrin at finding the Liberals ready to comply with it. Here in Paris the Liberals, who for some years have formed distinct congregations, receiving no State subvention, took no part in the election, but left the Orthodox section in sole possession of the field. As for the elections generally, the conciliatory spirit so warmly enjoined by M. Dufaure has been conspicuous by its absence. In these circumstances, it appears doubtful whether the Government will convoke the synod; but should it be convoked, and insist on the ordination test, the Liberal section intend to appeal to M. Jules Simon for the fulfilment of the pledge he gave as Minister of Justice on convening the synod of 1872—viz., that if a disruption occurred, the seceding minority would be placed by the State on a footing of equality. Another course is open to them—viz., to join the Lutheran Church, or Confession of Augsburg, which is also recognised by the State, and, it is understood, would receive them with open arms, without raising any doctrinal difficulties. They are naturally reluctant, however, to sacrifice their ancestral traditions and sever all the ties connecting them with their Huguenot forefathers by joining a body which, as far as France is concerned, is of more recent origin and comparatively barren in historical associations."

**THE RIVER WEAVER CHURCH BUILDING CASE.**—The trustees of the River Weaver having introduced a bill into Parliament asking for powers to take down and rebuild a church from their revenues—the clear produce of which it is provided by several Acts shall be devoted to the relief of the county rates—a crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Town Hall, Winsford, on Wednesday, the 28th, to protest against this provision of the bill, and to initiate proceedings for resisting its progress through Parliament. The chair was taken by Joseph Slater, Esq., of Woodford Hall, who in an opening address ably pointed out that the church was built for the workmen employed on the river, who are almost entirely Dissenters, and who have never used, or are likely to use, the church in question. The whole argument, therefore, for the existence of the churches proceeds on false pretences. The following resolution was moved by G. W. Latham, Esq.:

That the bill promoted by the trustees of the River Weaver Navigation in the present Parliament, violates the principles of religious equality, and is otherwise prejudicial to the interests of the ratepayers of this county, and ought to be opposed.

This position Mr. Latham sustained in a long and exhaustive address, every point being responded to by cordial cheers. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Crossley, of Northwich, and carried with one dissentient—that dissentient being the clergyman of the church, an incident that excited much amusement of the crowded meeting. The Rev. R. F. Tappin moved, and the Rev. J. T. Maxwell, of Over, seconded, a resolution appointing a committee to prosecute the opposition to the bill, and to raise the necessary funds for that purpose. A correspondent writes:—"The opposition to the bill promoted by the River Weaver trustees has happily proved successful. At a meeting of the trustees held on Monday, it was decided by unanimous vote to withdraw all the clauses relating to church building. This concession is most satisfactory, and the more honourable on the part of the trustees, inasmuch as hitherto the opposition has been entirely spontaneous, and was but just beginning to assume formidable proportions. The objection to appropriating public funds to ecclesiastical purposes, and the principle of religious equality asserted with such distinct emphasis has thus proved its own power, and the Nonconformists of Cheshire are heartily to be congratulated on the success of their watchful vigilance. It is another victory, indicating the course of public opinion, which it is to be hoped may not be lost upon Liberal politicians."

## Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. Dr. Punshon, the Wesleyan minister, has gone to Italy for the benefit of his health.

We learn from the American papers that the Rev. H. Ward Beecher is making a preaching tour in the West. He preached by invitation in Mr. Moody's church in Chicago, which was densely crowded, and thousands were unable to obtain admission.

**SOUTHPORT.**—Upper Portland-street Church, Southport, was opened on the 20th ult. by the Rev. R. W. Dale, who preached morning and evening to large congregations. On the following Sunday Dr. Pulford, of Glasgow, preached. The building has cost about 5,000*l.*, towards which 2,500*l.* has been paid or promised, and it is expected that 500*l.* will be realised by the opening services, towards which amount £336 were raised at the services referred to.

**LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S MISSION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.**—The directors have resolved to include, if practicable, in their missionary party, some one competent to take the principal share in the erection of the buildings necessary for the mission. He should be in thorough sympathy with



the mission, a man about twenty-five, unmarried, and practically acquainted with carpentry, mason's and smith's work. His services are needed for a period of three years. Should any of the pastors or officers of Congregational churches know of any one thoroughly suitable for such a position they would, we are informed, greatly oblige the directors by communicating with the Rev. R. Robinson or Dr. Mullens without delay.

**HAVERFORDWEST.**—The annual meeting of the Tabernacle Church, Haverfordwest, was held on the 27th ult., the Rev. J. H. Lochore, pastor, in the chair. The reports showed that the various institutions connected with the church were in a very encouraging condition; while the treasurer was able to congratulate the congregation that besides meeting all incidental expenses they had reduced the debt occasioned by rebuilding the chapel three years ago from upwards of 2,300*l.* to less than 600*l.*

**ISLINGTON CHAPEL.**—At a meeting of the London Presbytery on Tuesday last week, the question of the taking over of Islington Chapel by Dr. Thain Davidson's congregation again came up for consideration. The Rev. Dr. Edmond on behalf of the committee explained that they had met with a difficulty which they had not had time to adjust. There were certain points in the trust-deed of Islington Chapel which were not Presbyterian, and the committee sought the assistance of the Presbytery in helping them to come to a decision in the matter. He would move that the Presbytery meet in private for the consideration of this "knotty point." This was agreed to. After deliberations on the subject, it was understood that the subject was remitted back to the committee, who were requested to bring up a report at the next meeting of the Presbytery on Tuesday next.

**WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.**—**REOPENING OF THE BAPTIST CHAPEL.**—On Wednesday, February 28, this place of worship was reopened, after having been enlarged and greatly improved in every respect. There is now ample accommodation for 650 persons, and each hearer has much more ample sitting room than in the chapel as it was formerly. The chaste appearance of the building and the novel but simple plan of enlargement were greatly admired by every one present. The architects were Messrs. Sparks and Son, and the builder Mr. Berry, of Crediton, the work reflecting great credit on designer and builder. On Wednesday morning the Rev. J. Aldis, of Plymouth, preached a very effective sermon from Proverbs ix. 10. In the afternoon the Rev. E. G. Gange, of Bristol, preached from 1 Corinthians, xv. 24—28. At one o'clock a collation was served in the schoolroom, and at five a very large company met at tea. In the evening a public meeting, presided over by Henry Bennett, Esq., of Bristol, was held in the chapel. Mr. Gay, the treasurer, read the financial statement, from which it appeared that payments and promises up to day of opening amounted to 1,100*l.*, the outlay to rather over 1,500*l.* Addresses were delivered by the Rev. G. W. Humphreys, the pastor, E. G. Gange, of Bristol, E. Edwards, of Torquay, J. P. Carey, of Tiverton, J. Tetley, of Taunton, and A. Braine, of Chard. On Sunday, March 4, the reopening services were continued, Mr. Humphreys preaching morning and evening to large congregations, and in the afternoon he conducted a service for the young connected with the Sunday-schools and in the families of the congregation. The whole of the services were of a most gratifying and profitable character, those on Wednesday being largely attended by ministers and Christian friends from the whole district around.

**THE LATE MR. W. GRIFFITH.**—On the 27th of February the mortal remains of Mr. William Griffith, of Kensington, were laid in their "quiet resting place" in Brompton Cemetery. The deceased gentleman was senior deacon of Allen-street Congregational Church, and was in deed and in truth "a brother beloved." Mr. Griffith was senior partner in the publishing firm of Griffith and Farran, St. Paul's-churchyard, and resided in York Villas, Kensington. A solemn service was held in Allen-street Church, when an impressive address was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Raleigh, and the children of the Sunday-school sang with thrilling effect the solemn hymn of Milman, "When our hearts are bowed with woe." The body of the chapel was filled with friends and members of the congregation, for Mr. Griffith was universally and deservedly respected. The service at the cemetery was conducted by the Rev. J. Stoughton, D.D., and the grave was surrounded by a large number of friends from all quarters, who desired to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased. Six elegant wreaths were placed on the coffin, and the children of the British school scattered primroses on the grave, while the Sunday-school children sang, "Safe in the arms of Jesus." Mr. Griffith was one of those gentle, affectionate, and unobtrusive men, who silently, slowly, yet surely, gain great influence with all classes. He was remarkable for great affability, courtesy, and charity, but we will not attempt to delineate the character of one who had so very many friends and so few, if any, foes. Mr. Griffith's death will be deeply felt by all who knew him. On Sunday evening a funeral sermon was preached in connection with the event, by the Rev. Dr. Stoughton, in Allen-street Chapel. —*From a Correspondent.*

**PRINCES-STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, NORWICH.**—The annual congregational gathering in connection with this church was held on Thursday evening, and there was a large assembly in the body of the church on the occasion. After singing and prayer, the congregational treasurer submitted

the annual incidental expenses account. The pastor (the Rev. G. S. Barrett) stated that there were 483 members in the church at the beginning of the year, while at its conclusion they numbered 527. During the past year the children's Bible-class had had an average attendance of over sixty, and the average attendance at the congregational Bible-class had been 125. The Bible-woman was carrying on a most successful work, and the Sunday-schools had been progressing most favourably during the year. Altogether there were about 1,000 scholars in the schools, and about 120 teachers. In making allusion to the service for working men which had been held, he was pleased at the numbers which attended that service, and at the good results which had followed it in some cases. The evangelistic effort which had been put forth at Trowse and Thorpe in their missions there had been crowned with very satisfactory results—in fact, the village of Trowse had been changed in a considerable manner during the past few years. During the past year the contributions for foreign missions were 394*l.*; for home missions 559*l.*; for the poor 104*l.*; for the alterations 267*l.*; the total sum raised during the year was nearly 2,400*l.*; and in the last nine years this church alone had contributed by voluntary offerings the sum of 19,835*l.* With regard to the debt which had arisen (600*l.*), he had received a letter from Mr. Colman, M.P., who had munificently offered 100*l.*, and when the last hundred pounds was required, he would be happy to give that sum also. (Applause.) The deacons saw their way to guarantee another hundred pounds; so half the debt was gone at once; and he was confident that in a month's time the whole would be wiped off. (Applause.) It was a source of unfeigned gratitude that the members of this church had dwelt together in peace, and that no root of bitterness had sprung up. In this respect he believed the curse of Dissenting churches, the love of gossip and littleness, was rapidly dying out. (Applause.) The Rev. W. A. McAllan expressed his hearty sympathy with the work of the Princes-street Church, and his own satisfaction at its prosperity. He thought the great spiritual prosperity of this church showed that a large congregation had a large heart, large thoughts, and broad sympathies. He was sure the success of the labours of the pastor of the church could rejoice no heart more than that of his venerated predecessor. Mr. E. Theobald, one of the deacons, spoke on the importance of evangelistic effort; and Mr. G. Gandy, Mr. J. D. Smith, Mr. J. Porter, and Mr. Cushing (who gave a most cheering account of the Trowse mission), also addressed the meeting.

### Correspondence.

#### THE RECENT ELECTION AT WILTON.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR.—Two statements have appeared in your valuable paper concerning Wilton election that we should like to see corrected. In speaking of the declaration of the poll, you state that Mr. Norris was a "Liberal-Conservative." That is a mistake. Mr. Norris stated in his address that he was a "thorough and consistent Liberal." He was strongly in favour of the policy of the Liberal leaders with regard to the Eastern Question, in favour of the county franchise, "free and unsectarian education," Mr. Morgan's Burial Bill, disestablishment, &c. Then, in your account of the meeting in Cannon-street Hotel, it is stated that Mr. J. Cowen, M.P., said, referring to Wilton, "I must confess, too, that the most recent election does not appear to give much hope for the growth of Liberal opinions in the West of England." We are sure that if Mr. Cowen knew how that election was carried by the Conservatives he would not have attached any such importance to it. It does not prove anything concerning Liberalism or Conservatism. It only proves that a big house has enormous power over a small constituency, and that 187 electors had principle and courage sufficient to protest against it. Mr. Herbert did not stand out as he ought to have done in his true colours, and some were thus entrapped. In his address he made the contradictory statements that he was "anxious to follow in the footsteps of his father," and yet intended "to give an independent support to the present Government." This latter statement caused alarm, and his friends did their best to tone it down. Thus the people's minds were confused, and many did not know on which side of the House the hon. gentleman was going to sit.

The Herbert family did not make a single effort to enlighten people on the point. No public meeting was held, and though three addresses were issued by Mr. Herbert, he did not refer in either of them to one public question. Politics were ignored entirely by him. A very vigorous canvass was carried on by the Messrs. Herbert, Lady Herbert, the servants, dependents, farmers, and paid agency, and this won the election. There is no hope for us until canvassing is made

illegal. Men were visited while at work, and brought by their masters to the polling places like flocks of sheep. Mr. Norris and his supporters did everything that was done to educate the people and to tell them to vote according to their convictions.

On the other side it was:—"Vote for me because of my father." "Vote for my son because of my charities." "Vote for my landlord or master, and then you shall have some cheap allotments; if you don't—well, you'll see, we shall know how you vote."

Much more might be said to show that the result of the election ought not to be taken as a proof of the decay of Liberalism.

Steps ought to be taken to educate the farm labourers before they have the franchise. This is the significant lesson of the election. And we want to impress upon the people the necessity of being true to their principles, and to show them the meanness and wickedness of being false to their convictions.

Let no one be too harsh with the farm labourers. We are sorry to say that Wilton House is the "political weathercock" of the borough. If red colours were hung out at its windows to-morrow, the bulk of the tradesmen and farmers, as well as the labourers, would quickly follow suit.

In fairness, to all we think it right to say that many who voted for Mr. Herbert were very sorry that he did not adopt Liberal principles, and they hope that he will yet do so. May their hopes be realised!

Yours truly,  
A WILTON ELECTOR.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS AND THE FRANCHISE.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR.—As anything relating to the above class is of great interest to me, having spent the greater part of my life in close association with them, I read attentively the letter of "A High-Church Rector" which appeared in your columns last week. I am happy to find myself in such perfect agreement with one from whom, ecclesiastically, I am probably separated by a wide gulf. I have long felt that the enfranchisement of the rural labourers will be one of the great agents in their redemption from social thralldom. The apparently formidable objection to the measure, arising out of the lamentable ignorance of the men, is not such a difficulty as it appears. This ignorance, dense as it undoubtedly is, is something wholly different from the state of the American "residuum," and the negro population, who have done so much to bring Democratic institutions into disrepute. Our labourers are in no sense aliens. They are Englishmen to the very backbone. I have occasionally witnessed the attempt of some London Republican unionist who has managed to fasten on to the skirts of the Labourers' Union, to disturb the loyalty of the men; but it has rarely succeeded. The soundest of the labourers have always looked askance at such blatant demagogues. I well remember while in New York with Mr. Arch in 1873, how utterly sold were the enemies of Old England at the invincible loyalty of the Warwickshire labourer. They fully expected to find in him a bitter hater of monarchical England, and anticipated much enjoyment at her expense. Alas for the Revolutionists! Mr. Arch gave them all a wide berth. Nothing would persuade him to open his lips in the place. He had his grievance, but that was not going to make him forswear his nationality, or forget that he was a subject of Queen Victoria. Nothing in connection with Mr. Arch inspired me with more respect than his action on that occasion.

And so I venture to think the same thing will be found all through the rural districts. There will be found no truer Conservatives than the field-workers. Their cockney depreciators, and the would-be witty scribes who make merry at their expense, know very little really about them. Behind that seemingly stolid exterior, and below that crust of apparent intellectual barrenness, there are a native shrewdness and a depth of practical wisdom which few of their shallow critics are at all aware of. I am sure I only echo the sentiment of all who have taken part in the late rural bestirment, when I say that nothing has more astonished me than the wonderful patience of the labourers under severe provocation from the constabulary, local squiredom, and their incensed employers. Indignities have been heaped upon them by a corrupt local press, their purposes and desires have been utterly misrepresented, their outside sympathisers have been howled at as abettors



of revolution, every scornful epithet that malice could coin has been hurled at them and their movement, and yet no policeman's head has been broken, no farmer's homestead injured, and, with one or two trifling exceptions, no breach of the peace has ever been committed. No, the toilers are through and through honest, and I venture to assert will make as careful and conscientious a body of voters as any now enjoying the franchise.

Then why should it be withheld from them? Are the antecedents of the present restricted constitutions such as to justify pharisaism? Is their outcome, the present Parliament and a Tory Government, anything to boast of? Are there six men in England who believe that a government which should be the creation of agricultural labourers alone—if it were possible to conceive of such a product—could make a worse mess of foreign affairs than that which we have been standing aghast at during the past nine months? A dozen men such as Mr. Arch, invested with the requisite authority, would have done to the Turk six months ago, what Cromwell did to the Pope two centuries ago—brought him to book in a very summary manner. Every scoundrel implicated in the Bulgarian massacres would have met his reward, and the infinite iniquity would have been purged of its stains, so far as recompense and retribution could effect the task. None of the wretched paltering with villainy which has so thrilled us with indignation! Such doings are reserved for men whose hearts have been deadened by officialism, and whose souls have succumbed to the relentless forces of society.

I therefore earnestly hope that, when Mr. Trevelyan moves his resolutions on the 24th, there will be a powerful rally to his standard. It is every way unwise to leave men with a powerful organisation such as the agricultural labourers now possess, with a real grievance unredressed. Their original case against their employers is clean gone. Emigration has won for them a victory which threatens to be only too complete. If the leaders of the movement are not careful to moderate the demands of the men, a contingency will arise which will be beyond the reach of any union to overcome. A widespread depression in the rural districts, answering to the depression in the coal and iron regions, will be a new and startling phenomenon in British agriculture, and we should soon witness in our villages gaunt and hungry men, no less forlorn and apparently God-forsaken than those whom Mr. Arch and I met in some parts of Canada. The withholding of the franchise from these honest and patient agriculturists is about the only excuse left for their continued agitations. If justice were at once done them in this, Mr. Arch's vocation would be at an end. Other work would of course come to one so well endowed by nature; but he could no longer stand before the public as the champion of the oppressed field-toilers.

A. C.

#### THE COLONIES AND DISESTABLISHMENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—The enclosed letter has just been received from an Englishman now resident in Toronto. It is interesting, as showing the feeling of Churchmen there on the question of Establishment.

Yours truly,

J. O. J.

We colonists are much interested in the coming struggle of Church and State, a struggle which Tooth and other cases renders every hour more inevitable. As a Dissenter, you may like to know the feeling of English Churchmen abroad. Nowhere is the devotion to English Church worship stronger than amongst English Church colonists; yet are our churches free and untampered. Our churches, architecturally, not only vie with, but exceed in beauty and style anything in the old country. Our congregations are much larger, and far more devout, and need I say, "we all paddle our own canoes." I attend a Free Church of England, where all the sittings are free. We have a pastor, Canadian born, but a Cambridge man, who is just as popular as a Stanley, a Fraser, a Spurgeon, or a Brown. We have a crowded church—have to introduce chairs for extra sittings—and as earnest a congregation as ever met. Our district organisation is most complete. I defy the martinet Church of England, to find its free branch wanting in any one thing. Therefore we fear nothing to the Church of England from its separation from the State—nay, we believe it would add to its glory.

As a provincial politician and a Dissenter, you may sooner or later be called upon to act on this momentous question by vote, word, or deed. Quote the colonies, and tell Britons that there are no better Churchmen than colonists, and that what they hold dear in the Church they hold doubly dear when they find that, though thousands of miles away from State patronage, the worship of their Church loses none of its grandeur, its noble teachings, none of its holy and practical effects. Forms, ceremonies, endowments, may change and disappear; the True Spirit that formed that Church will govern and direct it still.

A. S.

#### SKETCHES FROM THE GALLERY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Monday Night.

The Prisons Bill is making slow progress through the House, its peculiar fate appearing not only to be handicapped by the remarkable political combination to which I referred the other week, but by the incursion of such erratic members as Mr. Whalley, Mr. Biggar, and Dr. Kenealy. Dr. Kenealy and Mr. Whalley, though not on speaking terms with each other, are united in the same objection to the bill—or rather they use the bill as a platform whence they may launch their arrows of contumely and scorn at Home Secretaries and prison authorities who keep a certain unhappy nobleman languishing in prison. By comparison, Dr. Kenealy is the more reticent of the two champions, being content with making a speech on each occasion the bill turns up in committee. But Mr. Whalley is irrepresible. He jumps up every time a member sits down, and as the newspapers do not report a fiftieth part of what he says, and do not record a third of the number of his distinct speeches, people outside the House gain but a faint idea of what Mr. Whalley, M.P., is like. The conscientious fairness of the Speaker is manifested in his not unfrequent calls upon Mr. Whalley; but these, too, form but a small proportion of Mr. Whalley's applications to speak. In fact, if he were permitted, there is little doubt that the hon. member for Peterborough would occupy the House throughout the whole of a sitting, with such brief intervals of relaxation as the chairmen of committees take through a long sitting. Nobody listens to him, or listens only to laugh; but it is all the same to him. He speaks as long as he is allowed, with an earnest, intense conviction as to the truth and importance of what he is saying, which lifts him above the range of the shafts of ridicule. He goes on till such time as his growing earnestness leads him into some un-Parliamentary utterance—such as when for example, he brings a mild charge of dishonest unfairness against one of Her Majesty's judges. Then there is a shout of "Oh, oh!" the Speaker interferes; Mr. Whalley sits down; is up again in a moment; withdraws the obnoxious expression; starts once more; and is finally brought up in the same manner. Of course, within the space of half-an-hour's speech he is certain to introduce some reference to a "certain foreign power," an euphemism which has suggested itself to him in consequence of the uproarious shout which always greets his plainer reference to the Jesuits. Still, a "certain foreign power" is strictly Parliamentary language, and as long as he confines himself to that Mr. Whalley is uninterrupted.

As for the combination of Radicals and high-bred Tories who oppose this bill from the two poles of political conviction, they have rather withdrawn from the front rank. Mr. Chamberlain has not added anything to the speech which drew upon him the condescending approval of Sir Walter Barttelot. Possibly when the hon. member found himself praised from that quarter, he began to think that there was something intrinsically wrong in his opposition. Mr. Rylands, who moved the rejection of the bill on going into committee, has not had much to say on it since; but the other flank of the allied army, Mr. Newdegate and Sir Walter Barttelot, do occasionally intervene, and plead the cause of the distressed magistrates. One compensation they have wrung from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, interposing on Thursday night, after a prolonged discussion on Clause 14, agreed to extend the boundaries of compensation under the Act by paying for extra prison accommodation provided by local authorities with a view rather to contingencies than to actual requirements.

Mr. Biggar is another outsider who has thrown himself into the controversy on the Prisons Bill, and occasionally favours the House with his views. But this intervention is not special to the Prisons Bill; for Mr. Biggar, with a comprehensiveness of view and unsuspected scope of critical faculty, opposes everything. On to-day's paper the hon. member appears as opposing not less than seventeen measures, of the majority of which he knows absolutely nothing. His intention, as already explained, is to prevent the House sitting late, and he thus avails himself of the rule which prevents all opposed business from being taken after half-past twelve at night. In this he is really doing good service, for it is a practice into which Ministers are too anxious to hurry Parliament to legislate upon important subjects at a time when the House is half empty, and considerably more than half tired. On Friday night, however, Mr. Biggar appeared under a new light, for when at twelve o'clock it was pro-

posed to adjourn the debate, he opposed the motion on the ground that it was yet early, and it would be better to go on to a division, even if more speeches were necessary. This contradiction was, however, merely apparent, and though plausible, the accepted explanation that the House seemed willing to adjourn, and that, therefore, Mr. Biggar opposed the intention, is inaccurate. The fact is that had the debate been then adjourned, other bills might have been proceeded with, whereas if the debate had gone on after half-past twelve, Mr. Parnell was prepared at that hour to move its adjournment. Thus were the two forces skilfully divided. Mr. Parnell sat quiet whilst Mr. Biggar opposed the motion for adjournment at twelve; and Mr. Biggar would have been dumb when at half-past twelve Mr. Parnell insisted on adjournment.

The debate on Friday arose on the long-threatened debate upon maritime right of search. Mr. Percy Wyndham, who, with Mr. Butler Johnstone, has constituted himself a joint guardian of British interests under this head, had on the paper through the greater part of last Session a resolution similar to that of Friday night, and which, though lengthy as set out in the paper, may be summarised in the statement that it proposed to abolish the Declaration of Paris as far as regards the undertaking by Great Britain to abandon her right of search on the high seas in time of war. When last year Mr. Percy Wyndham rose to introduce his motion he was incontinently counted out. On Friday he was more successful in finding his opportunity, rising at five o'clock and having, I understand, secured from the Government whip an assurance that the House would be kept for him. He made a very able speech, and a portentous debate followed, the result of which was to show that this new Young England party is in a hopeless minority, of which Mr. Biggar and Mr. Parnell form a full twenty-fifth part.

Monday night was devoted chiefly to a statement by the Minister of War on introducing the army estimates. This is a duty usually performed under the most painful circumstances, and they were not absent from the performance to-night. It generally happens that several hon. members have notices of motion, more or less distantly related to the army, on the paper, as amendments to the motion to go into Committee of Supply. To-night there were several of these, two being of a personal character—Sir George Campbell shooting a dart at Hobart Pasha, and Mr. Grant Duff inquiring into the circumstances under which (a long time ago, as everybody who has read the eighth edition of Capt. Burnaby's book will know) the gallant guardsman was recalled from Central Asia. After this Mr. Hardy found an opportunity for making his statement, which he did in his usual breathless manner, in presence of half-a-hundred hon. gentlemen who had dined early. The other six hundred were at dinner, and thus the army estimates were introduced, and an enormous sum of money voted.

#### Imperial Parliament.

##### COLONIAL MARRIAGES BILL.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, after Mr. Mundella's Town Councils and Local Boards Bill had been read a second time, Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGHES moved the second reading of the Colonial Marriages Bill, which proposes to declare valid in this country marriage with a deceased wife's sister solemnised between domiciled colonists in colonies where such marriages have been legalised. Mr. BRESFORD-HOPE moved the rejection of the bill, objecting to an obnoxious law being forced on us by the colonists, and predicting that in course of time there would be a regular "Cook's excursion" to the colonies of persons about to marry their deceased wives' sisters. This would be establishing one law for the rich and another for the poor. Mr. YOUNG and Mr. FORSYTH supported the bill, which was opposed by Earl PERCY. Mr. ROXBURGH said that many years ago he had opposed marriage with a deceased wife's sister, but the present was a totally different question, and he reminded the House that legal marriage with a deceased wife's sister in Australia was not an anomaly, as in India any Mahomedan subject of the Crown might marry his deceased wife's sister if so minded, and her children might not only inherit property, but become rulers of subject provinces. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL contended that, so long as the law of Great Britain and Ireland with respect to marriage with a deceased wife's sister was unchanged, no different principle should be applied to the colonies. Moreover, it would be anomalous to make the proposed change while the law of Scotland remained as at present, and so much want of uniformity prevailed in various possessions of the Crown. Sir H. JAMES commented upon the inconsistency of refusing to sanction the bill when the Crown had affirmed its principle by sanctioning the Acts of colonial legis-



latures. Mr. HUBBARD and Mr. MARTEN opposed the bill, and Mr. Serjeant SIMON and Mr. H. SAMUELSON supported it. Mr. OSBORNE MORGAN thought the existing anomaly was incapable of being defended. For instance, a colonist who had married his deceased wife's sister might invest 1,000*l.* in the funds and 1,000*l.* in a farm in Berkshire. When he died his children might succeed to the money in the funds, but would not be allowed by the present law to inherit the farm. Could there be anything more monstrous than that a marriage should be legal for one purpose and not for another? Mr. GIBSON asserted that there was no real grievance, and that the latent object of the measure was to legalise retrospective marriages which had been contracted many years ago and thus lead to the confiscation of property and the unsettling of titles. After a short reply by Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGHESSEN the amendment of Mr. Beresford-Hope was negatived on a division by 192 to 141, and the bill was read a second time amidst loud Opposition cheers.

[The following Conservatives, thirty-one in number, voted with the Opposition for the second reading of the Colonial Marriages Bill:—Sir Windham Austriether, Mr. Ashbury, Mr. Cawley, Mr. H. Chaplin, Mr. T. H. Clifton, Alderman Cotton, Mr. Deedes, Mr. C. B. Denison, Mr. W. B. Denison, Major Dickson, the Hon. A. F. Egerton (Secretary to the Admiralty), Mr. Agg-Gardner, the Hon. R. B. Hamilton, Mr. R. Heath, Viscount Hinchingbrook, Mr. Holt, Mr. W. Johnston, Colonel Kennard, Captain King-Harman, Sir C. Legard, Mr. C. E. Lewis, Mr. Mellor, Mr. Puleston, Mr. Sanderson, Mr. Sandford, Mr. Tennant, Mr. Torr, Mr. Wait, Sir H. Wilmot, Sir J. Eardley-Wilmot, and Mr. Reginald Yorke. Mr. Russell Gurney was one of the tellers for the bill. The Liberal and Home-Rule members who went into the lobby with the minority were Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Grieve, Mr. Kinraid, Mr. Owen Lewis, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. M'Lagan, Mr. Matheson, Mr. O'Clery, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Samuda, Mr. Serjeant Sherlock, Mr. A. J. Stanton, and Mr. Yeaman.]

On Thursday Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, in reply to Mr. Knatchbull-Hughessen, said that the Government would certainly not afford facilities for the further discussion of the Colonial Marriages Bill.

On the same day Lord CARNARVON, in reply to a question from the Earl of Belmore, made a statement showing that great vigilance was observed in suppressing the practice of kidnapping in the South Seas, a statement which drew from Lord Kimberley an expression of "great satisfaction."

In the Commons on Thursday, in answer to Sir G. Campbell, Lord G. HAMILTON said it was true that the Indian title of Her Majesty had been translated "Kaiser-i-Hind"; and, he added, since notice of the question had been given, he had received numerous communications from distinguished Oriental scholars, all expressing astonishment that Sir G. Campbell, who had been so long in India, should imagine that the title was German or unknown in India, and stating that the word "Kaiser" was an Arabic word used for centuries in the East both in writing and speaking. It had been adopted by the Viceroy after consultation with his Council, which included the well-known Oriental scholars, Sir W. Muir and Sir C. Bayley, and, in the opinion of those best able to judge, it was the fittest in an historical sense, the best understood by the educated natives, and most capable of being rendered into the various vernacular languages of India. Sir G. CAMPBELL further asked why the title was set out in Persian, to which Lord G. HAMILTON replied that "Kaiser" was not only Persian but Arabic and Greek, and it would be found more than once in the Greek Testament.

#### THE PRISONS BILL.

The House afterwards went into committee for the second time on the Prisons Bill, resuming at Clause 10, which provides for the appointment of a visiting committee of justices. Mr. R. HILL moved an amendment that in cases where the right of appointing visiting justices or visitors of any prison has been vested in municipal authorities, the right of appointing the visiting committee under the Act should continue to be exercised by them. This was opposed by the Government, and eventually rejected by 263 to 54. An amendment by Mr. FRESHFIELD to Clause 13, to extend the period under which loans should be repaid by prison authorities from thirty-five to sixty years, was resisted by Mr. W. H. SMITH on behalf of the Treasury, and the committee negatived it by 86 to 74. Several other amendments were disposed of, and when an amendment to the 20th clause—moved by Mr. SHERIDAN—to prevent prisoners before conviction from being subjected to more restraint than was necessary to secure their attendance at trial, was under discussion, progress was reported, after some discussion, in the course of which Mr. Whalley was called to order by Colonel MURK for accusing one of the judges of partiality and a corrupt administration of the law. The Chairman, however, ruled that any member of the House had a right, in his place, to animadvert upon the conduct of an officer of the State.

In the House of Lords on Friday, the Lord CHANCELLOR brought in a bill to consolidate and amend the law of bankruptcy; and also two bills to amend the law of contract in respect to contingent remainder and exoneration of real property from charges.

In the House of Commons, Mr. COURTNEY gave notice of his intention to bring forward a resolution

on the 23rd inst., declaring that the continued injustice, corruption, and cruelty of the Ottoman rule had relieved this country from all obligations, at any time contracted, to maintain the independence and integrity of the Ottoman Empire. In reply to Mr. MUNDELLA, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was true that Fossoun Bey and eight of his accomplices in the massacres and burnings at Kiliassoura and other parts of Bulgaria had been acquitted. Mr. Baring said he considered that the decision was contrary to the evidence, and therefore declined to attend any more sittings of the court. Mr. Baring's conduct had been approved by the Government, and it was not probable that any more trials would take place in connection with the Bulgarian massacres. In answer to Mr. H. SAMUELSON, Mr. BOURKE said a full and detailed report would be ready in a few days as to the punishment inflicted on Turkish officials whose cruel conduct was denounced by Mr. Baring.

#### THE DECLARATION OF PARIS.

Subsequently, on going into committee of supply, Mr. PERCY WYNDHAM moved, in effect, that independently of all other considerations, the failure, after twenty years' negotiations, to bring about general adhesion to the terms of the Declaration of Paris on the subject of maritime belligerent rights, necessitated the withdrawal of this country from what was necessarily, and on the face of it, a conditional and provisional assent to the new rules. As an amendment, Mr. GRANT DUFF proposed that to withdraw from the declaration would be in accordance neither with the honour nor with the interests of this country; but that the state of international law was extremely unsatisfactory, and called for the careful attention of the Government. A second amendment, moved by Mr. JACOB BRIGHT, asserted that it was for the general interest of this country that, with the exception of contraband of war, all private property (ships and cargoes) at sea should enjoy the same immunity in time of war as in peace. The principles of the Declaration of Paris were defended by Mr. BOURKE on the part of the Government, by Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, and other honourable members. On a division, the motion was negatived by a majority of 114.

#### ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

The election for Oldham took place on Thursday amid much excitement. From nine o'clock in the morning thousands of people paraded the streets, the mills and other workshops having been closed. Large reinforcements of police were obtained from the surrounding towns, and assistance in the shape of conveyances arrived from the outlying towns and districts. The Conservatives had been accused of bringing personators on a wholesale scale, and so firmly did the Liberals believe that this practice would be resorted to, that they had men from Blackburn, Manchester, Preston, Liverpool, and even Bristol, watching the movements of any suspicious characters that might have been imported from those places. In the course of the day several persons were apprehended for personation, but were released on bail. The following was the result of the polling:—

Hibbert (L.)	...	...	9543
Lees (C.)	...	...	8880

Liberal majority ... 663

The total number of voters polled was 18,546, (out of 18,700), and 124 votes were rejected as bad. The news of Mr. Hibbert's return reached the House of Commons in the course of Thursday evening, and was the subject of much exultation amongst the Liberal members. On Friday morning Mr. Hibbert, M.P., addressed a great meeting of electors and others in front of the Town Hall, at Oldham. He congratulated them on the victory which they had gained on Thursday. The Conservatives must now be convinced that in the future Liberal principles would prevail in Oldham. The result of the contest also showed that the country was not satisfied with Lord Beaconsfield and his Government. A working man afterwards delivered an eloquent address, and the proceedings terminated with cheers for Mr. Hibbert, the Hon. E. L. Stanley, and the leaders of the Liberal party. In the afternoon Mr. Hibbert visited the Manchester Reform Club, where he was enthusiastically received, and, in response to a request, he addressed the gentlemen present. A vote of thanks was afterwards accorded to the electors of Oldham for returning Mr. Hibbert. Mr. Hibbert has now been returned by 1,145 votes more than he received at the general election, when Serjeant Spinks, the Conservative candidate, who headed the poll, was 960 below the Liberal numbers of Thursday. At the general election Lancashire sent to the House of Commons twenty-six Conservatives and seven Liberals, but by the Liberal victories at Manchester and Oldham the proportion is now twenty-four to nine.

The Solicitor-General for England has at last obtained a seat. The poll at Launceston was taken on Saturday, when he was returned by a majority of 118 votes, the numbers having been—Sir Hardinge Giffard, 392; and Mr. Robert Collier, 274. In February, 1874, after this borough had been uncontested during thirty-nine years, the Conservative majority was 237; in July of the same year at a bye election, it was 184; and it is now still further reduced. Mr. Collier has polled 68 more than Mr. Drinkwater, and 41 more than Mr. Dingley, the Liberal candidates on the two occa-

sions referred to, and Sir Hardinge Giffard's number is proportionately less than was mustered by the Conservatives three years ago. Mr. Collier says he shall again come forward. It may be stated that the municipal and parliamentary boundaries of Launceston are not conterminous. The municipal borough has long returned a majority of Liberals to the Town Council and to the school board; but the Parliamentary limits include several scattered agricultural parishes, which have but little community of interest with the town itself.

Mr. John Morley has complied with the request of some members of the Liberal Council of the borough of Stoke to permit his name to be offered to the council when it proceeds to the selection of candidates, in the event of any vacancy in the representation.

#### SCHOOL BOARD NEWS.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—At the weekly meeting on Wednesday, Sir Charles Reed announced that the Drapers' Company had added two to the seven scholarships already given to the board by that company. The two new scholarships, which are for boys and girls, are of the value of 30*l.* each, and they are tenable for four years. It was resolved to appoint two additional inspectors, at a salary in each case of 300*l.* per annum. It was also resolved, on the motion of Mr. Sydney Buxton, to appoint a committee to consider and report whether the legal work of the board can be more economically performed by the appointment of a solicitor at a fixed salary, or on some other plan than under the present system.

BIRMINGHAM.—At a meeting of the Birmingham School Board on Thursday, the Rev. H. C. Millward moved—"That the board school teachers be at liberty to give a religious teaching to the children attending board schools, provided that such teaching be not given in the ordinary school hours." The resolution was strongly opposed by the Nonconformist members of the board, and lost, five voting for and eight against it.

WEDNESBURY.—The list of candidates for election on the Wednesbury School Board is a surprise. The Conservatives, awed perhaps by the strength of the reorganised Liberal Association, have not made a single nomination, and only eight candidates are put forth for the nine seats. There are the five nominees of the Liberal Association, two working men's representatives, and a Roman Catholic priest. The ninth seat will be filled up by the board at its first meeting.

SOUTHAMPTON.—In this borough a school-board contest has been avoided. The eleven seats will be filled by five Churchmen, one Baptist, one Wesleyan, two Congregationalists, one Roman Catholic, and one of the Society of Friends. The only change in the *personnel* of the board is that two Church of England ministers take the place of two others who retired.

BERKHAMPTSTAD.—The new school board of this town is composed of three pronounced Nonconformists who advocate unsectarian education, Mr. H. Nash, Mr. Thomas Read, and Rev. James Harcourt. Their two colleagues are a Liberal Churchman, who during the two preceding terms, did not oppose the school board policy, and a new member, Mr. Bullock, an adherent of the English Church Union. The unexpected retirement of the rector terminated an unprecedentedly vigorous and determined contest. The Rev. J. Harcourt is a new member, and an acquisition to the school board party.

THE CLERGY AND VOLUNTARY SCHOOLS.—A society for the maintenance of Church schools in the parish and rural deanery of Paddington has been formed, with the Bishop of London as president; the Archdeacon of Middlesex, Mr. A. J. B. Beresford-Hope, M.P., Mr. F. S. Powell, and Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., as vice-presidents. The committee have issued an appeal to the friends of Church of England education. They assert that it is the policy of the London board to get the whole elementary education of the poorer classes into their hands, and strongly contend, on religious grounds, for the preservation of Church of England schools, seeing that there is no security for religious teaching of any kind in board schools, and that it is impossible to say how soon a merely secular system, such as that in operation in Birmingham, will be set up in the metropolis. In efficiency, the Church schools can fearlessly challenge comparison with board schools. The appeal concludes:—"If to the other advantages we have specified from a Church point of view we can add this also, that by strengthening and upholding our existing schools we shall considerably lighten the burdens upon the ratepayers, we trust we shall have made out a case in favour of this appeal, and that the verdict of Paddington will be that its Church schools shall never pass out of Church hands."

PRIVATE ADVENTURE SCHOOLS.—The Education Department has issued a minute of instruction to Her Majesty's inspectors, laying down conditions under which the department will recognise as "efficient" private adventure schools not seeking annual aid, the object being to enable children under fourteen not attending public elementary schools to provide themselves with the necessary labour certificate before they can go to work next year. Efficiency is to be tested as to (1) the premises, (2) the results of secular instruction.

NATIONAL EDUCATION LEAGUE.—A circular announcing the closing of the Education League organisation will be issued to-day. The changes made



by legislation respecting the provision of elementary education during the past seven years, and especially those effected by the Act of last session, have thrown upon the officers of the League the duty of considering the present position of the organisation and the policy of its members in regard to the future; and at a meeting held on January 11 the following resolution was passed:—"That in the present aspect of the Education Question the Executive Committee consider it desirable to recommend to a special meeting of the subscribers, that arrangements be made for the gradual closing of the League organisation, and the transfer of its remaining work to the Liberal Associations of the country as part of the policy of the Liberal party. And that the officers be requested to call a meeting of the subscribers at the time they may think most advisable, and otherwise to take measures for carrying the resolution into effect." In pursuance of the foregoing resolution, the officers have decided to summon a meeting of the subscribers, to be held at the offices, 17, Ann-street, on the 28th of March, at two o'clock, at which a final statement of the financial position will be made, and a resolution submitted recommending the dissolution of the League. The necessity for a special organisation, the circular states, no longer exists, and the exertions of those who have hitherto supported the League may be properly merged in the general action of the Liberal party.

#### THE EASTERN QUESTION.

It is announced to-day from Constantinople that the Grand Vizier received on Saturday a telegram from Prince Milan ratifying the conditions of peace concluded by the Servian delegates and the assurances given by these to the Porte. The prince declares that the *status quo ante bellum*, leaving to Servia her former rights and privileges, is now re-established, and states that Servia accepts the obligations resulting from the various Imperial firmans. Diplomatic relations between Servia and the Porte are thus restored. The Montenegrin delegates have paid visits to the Grand Vizier and to Safvet Pasha. The negotiations were to begin to-day.

The last Turkish troops will leave Servian territory on March 12.

In the *Servian Official Gazette*, yesterday, a proclamation of Prince Milan was published, announcing the conclusion of peace with the Porte. The prince recommends his people to cultivate fraternal union and the pursuit of peaceful labour as the best means of acquiring strength for further progress.

The Montenegrin Envoys at Constantinople informed the Grand Vizier yesterday that the Prince of Montenegro had ratified the prolongation of the armistice until the 21st of March, and had given the necessary orders to the Montenegrin commanders. The first formal conference between the delegates and Safvet Pasha, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, was held yesterday. It is stated in a Reuter's telegram that they ask by way of rectification of their frontier for a portion of some districts which were separated into two parts at the time of the last delimitation of boundaries, and also the cession of the districts of Nicicis and Pira and the seaport of Spizza. They further require the free navigation of the Lake of Scutari and the river Boyana, the restoration of the Herzegovinian refugees to their homes, and a new *modus vivendi* between Montenegro and Turkey. Notwithstanding the character of these demands, it is believed at Constantinople that peace will be concluded.

The intention to demobilise the Russian Army on the banks of the Pruth is denied, or at least declared to be premature. Prior to any further step on the part of Russia, it was decided to send General Ignatieff on a mission to Berlin, Paris, and Vienna. He arrived at Berlin on Sunday. He has had long interviews with Prince Bismarck, an audience of the Emperor, and "long conversations" with M. D'Oubril, the Russian Ambassador to the German Court.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* thinks that the primary object of the General's mission is to induce the Powers to cause Abdul Hamid to sign a solemn engagement to the effect that he will carry through his reform programme within a stated time, and that he will adopt the Conference programme, should he fail to fulfil this promise. The writer proceeds:—"The question who is to decide whether the Sultan has really and effectually carried out his own programme will probably be left undetermined. Though the Paris Treaty of Peace, which forbids all interference with the domestic affairs of the Porte, would be practically cancelled by a diplomatic document of this nature, yet it is considered probable that an agreement will be effected. The Powers are favourably disposed, and the Porte is likely to consent, if Russia will engage to demobilise without delay, and if the eventual adoption of the Conference programme is not rendered an absolute certainty by the wording of the engagement." All authorities are agreed, as a Paris correspondent puts it, that General Ignatieff is not visiting the West to buy spectacles.

General Ignatieff was to leave for Paris this day, and Count Schouvaloff has left London to meet him. The general is not coming to London. A Russian agency telegram says that he visits Paris to consult the best oculists on the ophthalmia from which he suffers. According to the same authority, "the replies of the Powers awaited by Russia have not yet arrived; nevertheless, the rumours of an impending pacific solution still subsist." A Berlin

telegram states that England will present its reply first, but that the several Notes, though differently worded, are similar in sense. The Powers have agreed to acknowledge the meritorious zeal exhibited by the Russian Government on behalf of the well-being of the Christians in Turkey. Altogether, the replies promise to be carefully worded, so as to make retreat from the threatening position taken up by Russia and extrication from its embarrassing situation easy. The Powers will also, it is understood, formally propose that the Porte shall be granted a term of grace for the execution of the most urgent reforms as an earnest of more.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says:—"There can be no doubt that Turkey feels very uncomfortable in her isolation, and is anxious to renew her relations with the Powers. The spirit of conciliation shown in the negotiations with Servia and Montenegro; the intention to announce the conclusion of these negotiations to the Powers, and couple it with the assurance that as with regard to the peace with these two countries, so with regard to the reforms, the Porte is doing all in its power to obey the wishes of the Powers; the hint which has been thrown out that a period of three years should be given to Turkey, at the end of which, if she failed, she would accept the guarantees demanded by the Powers at the Conference—all indicates that Turkey is ready for a 'transaction.' The general tenor of the news from Constantinople is likewise in the same direction. The whole influence of the palace, especially of Mahmoud Damad and Said Pasha, is working to strengthen the pacific disposition of the Sultan and to prepare him to accept any solution which may put an end to the present state of things."

The Berlin Ministerial journal, the *Post*, says that Russia would be happy to purchase concessions from the Seraglio, and that the actual rulers of Turkey would be delighted to do anything for cash down, as in the good old time of Abdul Aziz; but the difficulty was to determine the exact concessions to be made by the Turks. What Russia wanted was not so much to exact concessions as to recover her former protectorate over the Turkish Christians. As a preliminary to this, Prince Gortschakoff was aiming at the abolition of the Paris Treaty of Peace. To prepare this result, General Ignatieff is visiting some continental courts.

The official *Vienna Evening Post* publishes a St. Petersburg letter setting forth that Russia would hardly object to disarming if Turkey would commence by disbanding all irregulars and merely retaining so many regulars under the colours as would suffice to protect the Christians from Moslem fanaticism.

A report that large bodies of Austrian troops are being concentrated on the Dalmatian frontier is contradicted in a telegram from Vienna. The only military movements in that direction are connected with the ordinary local changes.

It is officially announced from Constantinople that a civil school of administration has been established at the initiative and under the patronage of the Sultan, to which Mussulman and non-Mussulman pupils will be admitted without distinction. "This institution is designed," the official telegram proceeds, "to educate functionaries for all the State administrations, either in the capital or provinces, including those destined for the diplomatic service. It bears strong evidence of the firm resolve of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan to raise the level of those studies which are to render the Ottoman youth fit for the exercise of public functions, and, above all, not to permit any distinction to exist between Mussulmans and non-Mussulmans, and also to make personal merit the sole title to State employment."

The *Standard's* Constantinople correspondent telegraphs that Mr. Valentine Baker has been entrusted with the organisation of a new force of gendarmes. He has accepted the duty, on the understanding that it is not to interfere with his employment in the army in the event of war.

The *Morning Post* has information that the Porte is preparing a manifesto to the Powers, calling upon them, by virtue of the Treaty of Paris, to require Russia to disarm, because the present situation renders impossible the execution of the reforms and the amelioration of the financial situation.

Despatches sent by the Porte to its representatives abroad again declare that there is no foundation for the reports that the Sultan is ill, that the Grand Vizier is to be changed, or that the inhabitants of Constantinople are restless.

Political reasons no longer rendering the presence of the British Squadron in Eastern waters necessary, it has been removed from the Piræus to Malta in order to refit, and to give leave to the men, preparatory to a cruise during the summer months.

A meeting was held on Monday afternoon at Grosvenor House, under the presidency of the Duke of Westminster, in aid of the refugees from the Turkish provinces, when a lecture on Servia was delivered by Dr. Sandwith. On the conclusion of the lecture the Duke of Argyll, in proposing a resolution pledging the meeting to further efforts on behalf of the sufferers, observed that with regard to the responsibility of England in the present state of affairs in Turkey, he did not say the present Government or any other Government was to blame. He supposed every previous Government had had a share in the matter. Mr. Gladstone, in seconding the resolution, said that what the people wanted was information. They were appalled at what they heard. When the news came to hand

of Canon Liddon and Mr. MacColl having seen bodies impaled on the banks of a river in Bosnia, it was treated as strange and curious. If they consulted the papers presented to Parliament they would see the matter referred to as Canon Liddon's impalement story. It might just as well have been spoken of as his hobgoblin story. This showed the gross ignorance of those who ought to know better. Impalement was looked upon in Turkey as one of the institutions of the country, and if the practice was given up it would be felt that she was being deprived of part of her belongings.

A correspondence has been published between Mr. Gladstone and Sir Henry Elliot, respecting a statement in despatches of the latter that certain personages had declared that the Turks must be driven out of Europe, and that this had created mistrust of this country in the Turkish mind. Sir Henry Elliot says he is sorry to have used an expression appearing to convey that Mr. Gladstone had recommended the total expulsion of the Turks from Europe. His proposal, however, that "all the civil, military, and police authorities should leave the country" was looked upon with the same feelings as the more sweeping one, which had been distinctly advocated by others, and equally contributed to create distrust in us "as friendly advisers of the Porte." Mr. Gladstone disputes the interpretation placed on this proposal, and Sir Henry Elliot cuts short the controversy by declaring that it would be manifestly undesirable to enter into any correspondence on the subject of his official despatches to the Government.

#### Epitome of News.

The Queen held a Court and Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace on March 2. Her Majesty wore a black silk dress, trimmed with erape, and a long tulle veil, surmounted by a coronet. Princess Beatrice wore mauve *poult de soie*, trimmed with Neapolitan violets. The Court was very numerous. The presentations were about 140 in number.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, left Buckingham Palace on Saturday afternoon for Windsor Castle.

It is expected that Her Majesty will open the new Town Hall, Manchester, in May or June.

The daily papers contradict the statements which have appeared that the Duke of Edinburgh will shortly return to England, and that there was a question at any time of his royal highness being appointed to the command of the royal yacht.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon was absent from the Cabinet Council on Saturday, having to attend the funeral of his brother, Lord George Gordon Lennox.

Mr. Bright (says *Mayfair*), had intended to return to town this week, but has postponed his journey pending more favourable weather. He will probably arrive before the end of this week.

The Marquis of Northampton died on Saturday at Castle Ashby, in his sixty-first year. Lord William Compton succeeds to the title and estates.

It is stated that there will be no celebration of Prince Louis Napoleon's birthday, on March 16, at Chislehurst. Prince Louis Napoleon will return to Chislehurst some time during the present month. The Empress will go to Spain to pay a visit to her mother, the Comtesse de Montijo.

Replying to an address from the Stamford Liberals, expressing disapproval of Mr. Chaplin's attack upon Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons, the latter writes that, although he thinks Mr. Chaplin made a mistake, and casually used a word which he withdrew, his attack was quite within the fair limits of Parliamentary freedom.

Mr. Gladstone's views on the result of the Halifax election have been elicited in reply to a letter sent to him on that subject. The right hon. gentleman regards the return of Mr. Hutchinson as affording "not only a new proof of the interest of a great constituency in the cause of improvement generally, but also, unless I am much mistaken, another indication of the cordial anxiety of the great mass of the people of this country to see an effectual remedy applied to the heavy and too long continued sufferings of the Christians of European Turkey."

A banquet to Sir Bartle Frere was given at the Langham Hotel on Wednesday evening, in commemoration of the right hon. baronet's appointment as Governor of Cape Colony. Mr. Goschen, M.P., presided; and amongst the speakers were the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Earl of Kimberley.

The *Daily News* is informed that the subject of medical degrees for women was discussed at a meeting of the Senate of the University of London held on Wednesday, and that it was decided, by a majority of 14 to 8, to admit women to such degrees.

It is stated that Mr. Froude, having heard of Mr. Gladstone's proposed candidature in the Liberal interest for the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University, has expressed his willingness to withdraw.

Governor John Pope Hennessy was on Saturday presented with the freedom of the city of Cork previous to his departure for his new office at Hong Kong.

From the Navy Estimates, which were issued on Monday, it appears that the net sum required for the naval service during the next twelve months is



10,762,829l., as compared with 11,064,843l. last year.

From a supplementary army estimate which was issued on Saturday it was shown that a further sum of 140,000l. is required to meet military expenditure during the year ending on the 31st instant.

A return published on Saturday shows that 385 petitions, with 177,005 signatures, have been presented in favour of the Sunday Closing (Ireland) Bill, and nine petitions, bearing 16,456 signatures, against it.

Dean Stanley has been elected President of the Sunday Society, which has for its object the opening of museums and art galleries on Sunday.

Speaking at a Conservative dinner on Wednesday at Portsmouth, Mr. Lowther, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, said that under no circumstances would the mischievous policy of coercion would be adopted towards Turkey, and no idea was likely to enter the head of any responsible adviser of Her Majesty whereby a single button of a sailor's jacket would be placed in jeopardy from any matters arising out of the internal administration of the Turkish Empire.

The bill for "fusing" the South-Eastern and Chatham and Dover Railways cannot be introduced this session, the application for permission to suspend the standing orders in its favour having been refused.

There was a torchlight demonstration of anti-vaccinators at Benbury on Wednesday night, in which several hundred persons took part. Dr. Jenner's effigy was carried in the procession, and was afterwards burned in a field near the town.

The Cambridge University boat crew arrived at Putney on Monday, and had a spin upon the Thames in the course of the afternoon. The Oxford crew are not expected at Putney for some days.

Dr. Slade, who is at present at the Hague, has received a letter from Count Akeakoff, advising that his intended visit to St. Petersburg should be postponed till next autumn, and it is now probable that he will shortly return to America, as he is strongly advised to do by his friends there.

Some weeks ago, says the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*, it was announced that fresh and important evidence bearing on the Tichborne case had been found in Spain, and Dr. Kenney desired to be sent, at the expense of the nation, to investigate the matter, but his wishes were not complied with. Several friends of the "Claimant" then took steps to test the truth of the statements made, and it will not surprise many persons at this time of day to learn that the investigators have just reported to the effect that they are perfectly convinced that "the whole thing is a fraud, forgery, and conspiracy."

On Friday night week the Scriptural drama of "Joseph and his Brethren" was performed in the hall of the Mechanics' Institute, Darlington, before a large audience, by an amateur company of Primitive Methodists. The Scriptural narrative was divided into nine scenes, which were gone through with much spirit by the performers, who were all dressed in character. Pharaoh's throne and crown, Joseph's coat of many colours, Benjamin's sack with the king's cup, together with the necessary Oriental costumes, were all represented. At intervals, between the scenes, appropriate pieces of music were rendered with much vigour by the brethren. The representation was received with much favour, and it will shortly be repeated.

The funeral of O'Mahony took place on Sunday in Dublin. A very large procession, in which about six thousand persons took part, marched through the city. There were thirty bands in the procession, and the coffin was placed on a large funeral car, followed by about twenty former political prisoners. Twenty trades took part in the display, and several country deputations attended. At the grave Mr. O. J. Kickham delivered a speech, in which he said Fenianism still existed. The public-houses were closed during the day.

Foot-and-mouth disease has broken out at Shotswell, Warwickshire, and at Grimsbury, Northamptonshire. Meetings to take steps to prevent the importation of cattle from foreign countries were held on Saturday at Bedford, Hereford, and Oxford. The cattle plague seems to be stayed throughout the country, there having been no new cases reported for a fortnight.

A North Shields tradesman has died from inhaling chloroform. It appears that Mr. James Gale, a draper, was taken suddenly unwell, and to relieve himself inhaled the vapour of some chloroform. He became unconscious, and three doctors were called in, but notwithstanding their efforts he died. He was aged forty.

On Friday last a Mr. George Tipple was taken into custody for drunkenness. He was duly bailed, but failed next morning to appear at Worship-street. It was ascertained that he had suffocated himself by swallowing his pocket-handkerchief!

Lewis Sampson was summoned by the Kensington Vestry on Friday for exposing certain infectious clothing. It was proved that several persons in defendant's house suffered from smallpox; one of them was dying, yet the clothing of these people was regularly sent to the washerwoman, the result being that one man caught the contagion and died, and a number of others were infected. The defendant, being a foreigner, was only fined 2l.

The present strength of the Mediterranean Squadron will not be maintained any longer than is deemed actually necessary. There are twenty sea-

going vessels on the station, having more than 5,000 souls on board.

The importation of American meat at Liverpool continues on a large scale. Two steamers arrived on Monday, bringing a total of 4,485 quarters of beef and 430 carcasses of sheep.

The experiment ship, which lately left Havre for Buenos Ayres for the purpose of bringing back fresh meat, took out a quantity of French beef preserved by the refrigerating process, and on arrival out it was found "as fresh as when shipped."

### Miscellaneous.

**LORD BEACONSFIELD AND THE FACTORY ACTS.**—Lord Shaftesbury yesterday introduced to the Earl of Beaconsfield a deputation from the manufacturing districts of Great Britain and Ireland, which presented to the Premier an address congratulating him upon his elevation to the peerage, and thanking him for the services he had rendered to them whilst he was a member of the House of Commons. Lord Beaconsfield, in returning thanks, looked upon the address as one more instance of the sincere sympathy which he had always found amongst the great body of his countrymen, and especially amongst the working classes.

**TETTERHALL COLLEGE.**—The results of the last Cambridge Local Examinations have proved highly satisfactory to the masters and friends of this college. Nine seniors were sent for examination, all of whom passed—four with honours: one first, one second, and two third class, the boy in the first class (Allan Young), obtaining distinctions in religious knowledge, Greek, Latin, mathematics, and French. Thirty juniors went up for the examinations, of whom twenty-six passed. Of these nine took honours—four in the first, four in the second, and one in the third class. Altogether nineteen distinctions were obtained, and thirty-five passed. Such results for a school of a hundred boys indicate two very important facts: first, that the many are not neglected for the few; secondly, that there exists among the staff of masters an amount of general teaching power rarely surpassed and seldom equalled.

**REFORMATION OF THIEVES.**—In reference to the thieves' supper lately given at the Mission Chapel, Little Wilde-street, Drury-lane, Mr. George Hutton writes to the *Record* that since that novel entertainment forty-three men have sent in their names expressing themselves as most anxious to reform their life if honest labour of any kind can be found for them. "We have already several men under our care hard at work—six at wood-chopping, two at knife and scissors-grinding machines, one at shirt work with his wife, one with costermonger's barrow. Similar kinds of honest labour we are now anxious to find for the fresh applicants who may give reasonable hope of sincerity. But what we most need is a 'Home,' where we can take in these hopeful cases and shelter them under Christian influence, instead of being compelled to allow many of them to go back to sleep at night in the dark dens of iniquity from which they came."

**THE BIRMINGHAM BREWERS AND THE GOTHENBURG SYSTEM.**—A meeting of the wholesale brewers, maltsters, hop-merchants, and wine and spirit merchants of Birmingham and the midland counties, was held on Friday afternoon, at Birmingham, to consider what steps should be taken with respect to Mr. Chamberlain's proposed resolution on the Gothenburg system. Mr. George Wilkinson, who presided, characterised the scheme as impracticable, and as one which would entail heavy burdens on the ratepayers. The interests of the wholesale trade had not been considered in the discussion of the subject, and two millions of money would have to be added to Mr. Chamberlain's estimate on account of that trade. He calculated that between 7,000,000l. and 8,000,000l. would be required to compensate all the interests of the trade in Birmingham, and he did not think that the ratepayers would be disposed to take that burden upon themselves. An association was formed and a committee appointed for the purpose of taking steps to oppose Mr. Chamberlain's motion.

**UNCLE TOM AT WINDSOR CASTLE.**—On Monday afternoon, the Rev. Josiah Henson, the hero of Mrs. Stowe's story of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," left London on a visit to Her Majesty the Queen, at Windsor Castle. The party lunched at the palace, after which Mr. Henson, accompanied by Mrs. Henson, was introduced to Her Majesty in the North Corridor, when the Queen graciously expressed her pleasure at meeting one of whom she had read and heard so much. The Queen was graciously pleased to present Mr. Henson with her photograph, signed "Victoria Regina, 1877," and mounted on a handsome frame, at the same time requesting Mr. Henson and his friend Mr. Lobb to inscribe their autographs in her album. The party were then shown over the castle and taken through the grounds and state apartment, eventually quitting the place at four o'clock, highly pleased with their reception. While ascending the Castle Hill, opposite the Albert Memorial Chapel, Mr. Henson was met by the Dean of Windsor and several other gentlemen, with whom he entered into conversation, and in reply to a remark, Mr. Henson said that he should soon be eighty-eight years old. Mr. Henson and his friends returned in the evening to London.

**TEMPERANCE IN THE CITY.**—A deputation of the City clergy, headed by the Rev. Harvey Brookes, rector of St. Margaret's, Lothbury, waited on

the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House on Thursday, and presented a memorial signed by the Committees of Lloyd's and the Stock Exchange, and many of their members, the Postmaster-General, twenty-five City bankers, the Young Men's Christian Association, a number of mercantile firms, and 1,275 young men in wholesale houses and trades, begging the licensing justices of the City and his lordship, as their chairman, to reject the application about to be made to them by Mr. E. T. Smith, for a licence to convert the vaults of the Royal Exchange into a restaurant and billiard saloon. The Lord Mayor, in reply, said the licensing justices, who would meet next month, would be guided by three main considerations—namely, the need of such additional accommodation, the adaptability of the place proposed, and the propriety of entrusting the applicant, whoever he might be, with a licence. Perhaps, also, the proprietors of licensed houses in the vicinity of the Royal Exchange would have something to say upon the matter. He would gladly take charge of the memorials presented to him, and if the decision rested with him the petitioners need have no fear as to the result.

**CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.**—The class-lists of the local examinations held in December of last year have been issued. From a summary at the end of the lists it appears that 2,658 junior boys—that is, under sixteen years of age, were candidates. Of this number, 232 passed in Class I.; 231 in Class II.; 380 in Class III., 963 satisfied the examiners; 607 failed entirely; 11 examined were over the specified age; 139 were absent, and 5 were rejected for copying. Of the senior boys, 434 entered themselves for examination; 31 passed in Class I., 51 in Class II., 49 in Class III.; 134 satisfied the examiners, 30 were absent, 1 was rejected for resorting to unfair means, 1 for serious misconduct, and 130 failed to satisfy the examiners. The examination of girls showed that 960 juniors and 713 seniors entered. Of the juniors 10 obtained a first class, 39 a second class, 157 a third class; 460 satisfied the examiners, 258 failed, and 42 were absent. Among the senior girls, 10 obtained a first class, 32 a second class, 92 a third class; 338 satisfied the examiners, 221 failed, and 20 were absent. The statistical tables, with the report of the Syndicate, will be ready about the end of the month, and the certificates will be sent to the local secretaries during the month of April.

**THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.**—Last night, when the list of questions was exhausted, the Solicitor-General took his seat, though not till after a scene which for several anxious moments threatened further to delay the hon. and learned gentleman's admission into Parliament. On arriving at the table, whither he was conducted by Sir W. Dyke and Mr. Mowbray, he was met by Sir Erskine May, who, according to custom, asked him for the writ of his return. The Solicitor-General thereupon produced from his breast-pocket a bundle of papers, apparently chiefly old letters, through which, under the amused observations of a crowded House, he proceeded to search. The writ was not there, and a similar failure followed upon the deliberate search among the contents of three other pockets, each remarkably well filled with papers. The position of the new member was growing critical, and the hilarity of the House increasing in proportion, when, at a suggestion from the Home Secretary, Sir William Dyke returned to the benches under the gallery, where the Solicitor-General had been seated, awaiting his summons from the chair. There he discovered the writ in the new member's hat, and, bringing it up to the table, handed it to the clerk. After this, all went smoothly; and, amid cheers and laughter, the Solicitor-General was permitted to take the oath, and was duly introduced to the Speaker.—*Daily News*.

**THE PRESS IN PARLIAMENT.**—Mr. Hutchinson adds another to the list of gentlemen of the Press in the House of Commons. In addition to the editor and chief proprietor of the *Halifax Courier*, there are now Dr. Cameron, proprietor and editor of the *North British Daily Mail*; Mr. Joseph Cowen, proprietor of that "influential paper in the North of England" to which Mr. Gladstone alluded the other night; Professor Smyth, proprietor of the *Derry Sentinel*; Mr. P. A. Taylor, proprietor of the *Examiner*; Mr. Beresford Hope, founder and proprietor of the *Saturday Review*; Mr. Sam. Morley, of the *Contemporary Review*; Mr. Walter, of the *Times*; and Mr. Ingram, of the *Illustrated London News*. Mr. A. M. Sullivan might last session have been included in the list as proprietor and editor of the *Nation*; but the hon. member, in disposing of his newspaper property, has absolutely severed himself from journalism, and does not even write an occasional paragraph for the *Nation*. There is an hon. member who once occupied another position in the House—a more elevated one, I may say, inasmuch as it was an appointment in the Press Gallery, he being on the reporting staff of one of the London daily papers. Mr. Lowe is, or was, a famous journalist, and so is Mr. Leonard Courtney, the new member for Liskeard. I need not mention Mr. Gladstone, or include other names of hon. and right hon. members accustomed to write for the journals, to indicate the increasing measure of direct representation of the press which is one of the features of the Parliament that thrived in power that well-known "gentleman of the Press," Mr. Disraeli.—*Mayfair*.

**THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.**—The Prince of Wales presided on Monday night at the 119th anniversary banquet of the Orphan Working



School. The festival was held at Willis's Rooms, and was specially in commemoration of the amalgamation of the school with the Alexandra Orphanage. Some three hundred noblemen and gentlemen were present. After grace by the Rev. Dr. Allon, the Chairman, in proposing the "Health of the Queen, the patroness of the charity," testified to Her Majesty's continued interest in it. Lieut.-General Sir W. Wilbraham responded to the toast of the army; Sir G. Sartorius, Admiral of the Fleet, spoke for the navy. The Prince of Wales, in responding to the toast of "Prosperity to the School," said that he had received a telegram from Her Majesty, stating that it was with great pleasure that she had learned that he was to take the chair that evening, and sending a subscription of 100 guineas. In the course of his speech, he referred to some of the facts as to the progress and prosperity of the two institutions detailed in the report, from which we recently quoted, and stated that the president, the Duke of Cambridge, would have been there but from indisposition. Singing by the children followed, and Mr. Finch, the secretary, then announced, amid loud applause, that His Royal Highness had kindly given a sum of 100*l.* to the institution. A long subscription list was read, including 500*l.* from "H. W. G. B.," and large subscriptions from Miss Savory, Mr. H. A. Brassey, Mr. Freake, Messrs. Rothschild, Mr. Welch, Lord Thurlow, Mr. Spicer, Messrs. Copestake, and others. Mr. Kemp Welch having addressed the assembly, urging them not to relax their efforts for the benefit of the charity, the Prince of Wales announced that in the course of three weeks the sum of 6,647*l.* had been collected on behalf of the two institutions.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE ODGER.—Mr. Odger, one of the most prominent politicians of the working classes during the reform agitation ten years ago, died on Sunday morning at his house in High-street, Bloomsbury. Mr. Odger, who was fifty-seven years of age at the time of his death, made more than one unsuccessful attempt to enter Parliament. In February, 1870, he unsuccessfully contested Southwark, on that occasion polling 4,382 votes. Sir John Bennett, in a letter to this morning's papers says:—"Now that they have lost one of their ablest leaders, the working classes do well to recognise George Odger's undoubted merits, and to decree a public funeral in his honour. His whole life was a busy one. Through many a weary struggle our artisans have enjoyed the advantage of his sober and thoughtful counsel. While his bread came from the work of his own hands, his voice and his pen were ever at the service of any who were seeking to acquire the power of knowledge, or the rights of citizenship. Self-educated, he never failed as a speaker to command the will of even the least intelligent, and often to still the strife of the most stormy Radical meetings. Without demanding more moderation, he skillfully directed the fire and fury of excited times into a course of ultimate triumph. He pleaded for popular power on the noisiest platforms, while Mr. Disraeli was in quieter fashion educating his party in the momentous doctrine of household suffrage. After the overthrow of the Hyde Park railings a great statesman, upon leaving the House of Commons, gasping for breath at the Conservative performance of such a leap in the dark, exclaimed to George Odger, 'You have brought the Government on their knees before us,' and soon another declared that henceforth they must teach their masters their letters. He was perpetually insisting on the vital necessity of public enlightenment, and though they paid him in pence he was one of a dozen who came home to their hearts with an earnest desire for those elements of popular progress to which they will owe their future elevation and prosperity. In the coldest winter's night I have seen George Odger, in a third-class carriage, eat his dinner of a roll and sausage on his way to a crowded assembly, where he made by far the best speech of the evening. Such speeches, not coming from the lips of a man of social rank, rarely found their way into our public journals. Indeed, respectable men who did not know him, little thought how with a full heart, and, perhaps, an empty belly, a working man of independent mind was teaching his class to help their betters to write the next page on the Statute Book of the British nation. At fifty-eight George Odger has finished his career, often through ill report, but his friends will say over his grave that they could have better spared a greater man."

STENTOR DISTANCED.—The *Boston Daily Globe* of February 13 publishes the following special despatch, which it received from Salem, eighteen miles distant, by telephone:—"Salem, February 12, 10.55 p.m.—Professor A. Graham Bell, the inventor of that wonderful instrument the telephone, which has caused so much interest in the scientific world, and which is now becoming so popularly known, lectured on his invention at Lyceum Hall this evening. The lecture was one of a course of the Essex Institute, and about 500 persons were present. The lecture was very well received, and the frequent and long-continued applause showed that the audience appreciated fully the wonderful uses and the experiments made with the machine. Professor Bell briefly explained the construction of the instrument, and then sketched his studies of the system of transmitting sounds. He explained that it was his first attempt before an audience to try these experiments. An intermittent current was first sent from Boston by Mr. Thomas A. Watson, Professor Bell's associate. This caused a

noise very similar to a horn from the telephone. The Morse telegraph alphabet was then sent by musical sounds, and could be heard throughout the hall. The audience burst into loud applause at this experiment. A telephonic organ was then put into operation in Boston. 'Should Auld Acquaintance be Forgot' and 'Yankee Doodle' were readily heard through the hall and heartily recognised. At this point Professor Bell then explained how he learnt to transmit the tones of the human voice, and paid a grateful tribute to Mr. Watson. Professor Bell asked Mr. Watson for a song, and 'Auld Lang Syne' came from the mouthpiece of the instrument almost before his words were ended. Mr. Watson was then asked to make a speech to the audience. He expressed himself as having more confidence eighteen miles away than if he were present. His speech was as follows:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—It gives me great pleasure to be able to address you this evening, although I am in Boston and you in Salem." This could be heard thirty-feet distant—that is, all over the hall, and brought down the house with applause. A system of questioning was then carried on, and Mr. Watson was asked if he heard the applause. The answer was, 'I was not listening; try again.' The applause was given, and its receipt at once acknowledged in Boston. Coughing and singing were then heard, and a variety of questions were then asked from the Salem end, and among them "What news from the Electoral Commission?" followed by the distinct answer of 'I don't know of any.' But the news came fleetingly along that the engineers of the Boston and Maine Railroad had struck. General Cogswell asked if the trains were running; the answer was clear and distinct that they were not at 5.30 o'clock. Professor Bell introduced the Rev. E. C. Bolles, who said, 'I shake hands with you cordially, in imagination, twenty miles away.' The Rev. E. S. Atwood asked, 'Does it rain?' 'It does not in Boston,' was Mr. Watson's answer. Professor Gage, the electrician, then spoke through the telephone, endeavouring to have his voice recognised. This could not be done as Mr. Watson was not familiar with the voice. Mr. Shaje Zsawa was recognised, Mr. Watson being perfectly familiar with his tones. One of the assistants in Boston then said that 'Hold the fort' would be sung in Boston, and the tune which followed was readily recognised. Professor Bell closed his lecture by briefly stating the practical uses to which he was confident the telephone could be applied. Hearty applause was afforded the lecturer as he finished, and people flocked about the stage in large numbers to more closely examine the wonderful instrument that had placed them in audible communication with people nearly twenty miles away." The *Boston Globe* adds:—"The instrument which transmitted the wonderful voice-message to the listening ears in this city (Boston) was placed in a little room in Exeter-place, where were assembled Professor Watson, Benjamin Briden, the electrician, Professor E. B. Warman, and Mr. A. B. Fletcher, representative of the *Globe*. The experiment was certainly a great success. The conversation with the friends eighteen miles away was carried on in ordinary tones of voice. The *Globe* representative in Boston very easily recognised the voice of the transmitter of the despatch in Salem, and very distinctly heard the applause which was given in the Essex Institute Hall."

### Gleanings.

In Nicaragua there is a plant that gives an electric shock when touched.

To keep moths out of old clothing, it is recommended to give the clothing to the poor.

At a spiritualist *séance* in Paris, recently, the ghost of a long-since-dead atheist put in an appearance and was interrogated. At last inquired one: "How about the other world?" "There is no other world," replied the spirit.

"I had nine children to support, and it kept me busy," said Smith to Jones, as they met; "but one of the girls got married. Now I have—" "Eight," interrupted Jones. "No, ten," said Smith, with a sigh.

This was Sir Robert Stephenson's remark to the man who used to bother him about perpetual motion:—"If you will take yourself up by the band of your breeches and carry yourself round the room, I will consider the matter."

As a canal-boat was passing under a bridge, the captain gave the usual warning, "Look out!" when a little Frenchman, popping his head out of the window, received a severe bump. He drew it back in a great pet, and exclaimed, "Dese Americans are queer people. Dey say, 'Look out' when dey mean 'look in'!"

A minister was telling a young girl, who was about to become a bride, that she must remember that man and wife are one. "Well," said she, "if you were under my father and mother's window when they are quarrelling, you'd think they were at least a dozen."

An American Sunday-school teacher recently provoked a not very agreeable answer to a question put to his class. "Why," he asked, "should we celebrate Washington's birthday more than mine?" "Because he never told a lie!" shouted a little boy.

An American editor says:—"Let Turks delight to howl and fight, for 'tis their nature to; let Bear and Lion growl and bite, for madness made them so. But Yankees, you should never let your angry

passions rise; don't quarrel; trade, work hard, lie low, and forward the supplies."

"My lord says," observed a nobleman's house-keeper, showing a tourist through the picture-gallery of a grand country-house, "that that picture's by Paul Very Uneasy (Veronese); but what he's uneasy about, air, I'm sure I don't know."

An organ being some time ago introduced to a parish church in the North of Scotland, some of the members took offence and left. One of these soon after met another member, and inquired "hoo the organ was gettin' on." "Oh, fine," was the answer; "just blawin' awa' the chaff an' keepin' the corn."

While the Marquis of Salisbury has been giving us at home dismal pictures of the Turk, the Turk has been representing the Marquis of Salisbury in a dozen caricatures as the Black Monkey, or the King of the Pit—sometimes with and sometimes without a tail, and always being abused and insulted by Midhat Pasha.

A well-known shipping firm in London are preparing to take a party of 200 passengers for a yachting tour of nine months' duration to all the interesting cities and other places in Europe, Asia, and America. The charge, to cover everything—passage, food, incidental travelling, &c.—will be 500*l.*, and the vessel will be fitted as a huge floating hotel, with every facility for comfort and entertainment.

One of the great thoroughfares of South London—Kennington Park Road—is being planted with plane trees on the footpaths, the distance between each tree being twenty feet. The planting of Clapham-road footways, at first as far as the Swan, Stockwell, will be shortly begun, and eventually completed as far as Clapham Common, and this will give to a roadway three miles fully in length an uninterrupted avenue of trees.

THE STORY OF JEFFREY AND THE NORTH POLE, as told by Sydney Smith, appears to me strangely spoiled in the life. The incident happened while the Jeffreys were my near neighbours in London; and Mrs. Sydney Smith related the incident to me at the time. Captain (afterwards Sir John) Ross had just returned from an unsuccessful Polar expedition, and was bent upon going again. He used all his interest to get the Government stirred up to fit out another expedition; and among others the Lord Advocate was to be applied to, to bespeak his good offices. The mutual friend who undertook to do Captain Ross's errand to Jeffrey arrived at an unfortunate moment. Jeffrey was in delicate health at that time, and made a great point of his daily ride; and, when the applicant reached his door, he was putting his foot in the stirrup, and did not want to be detained. So he pished and pawed, and cared nothing for the North Pole, and at length "damned" it. The applicant spoke angrily about it to Sydney Smith, wishing that Jeffrey would take care what he was about, and use more civil language. "What do you think he said to me?" cried the complainant. "Why, he damned the North Pole!" "Well, never mind! never mind!" said Sydney Smith, soothingly. "Never mind his damning the North Pole. I have heard him speak disrespectfully of the equator."—*Miss Martineau's Reminiscences.*

Mr. E. Godkin, editor of the *New York Nation*, is the author of a work on Political Government, which is just about to appear in the United States. Mr. Godkin is the son of a well-known correspondent of the *Times*, who wrote a remarkable book on the Irish Church.

The biography of Robert Raikes, by Mr. Alfred Gregory, of Gloucester, will shortly be issued by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton, under the title, "Robert Raikes, Journalist and Philanthropist; a History of the Origin of Sunday-schools."

Captain Burnaby has addressed a letter to a friend in London, in which he states that he has nearly reached Herzegovina, on his way to Kara. He finds the people enthusiastic for war, and the Turks are sending large detachments to Kara.

Letters have been received by the Palestine Exploration Committee from Lieutenant Kitchener, who arrived at Beyrout on the 4th of February. The road to Damascus was blocked from the 1st to the 6th by a heavy fall of snow. On the 11th Lieutenant Kitchener went on to Damascus, and there saw Abd-el-Kader, who spoke in terms of great regret that his own people, the Algerines of Sâfâ, should have been guilty of the attack upon Lieutenant Conder and his party. The country is reported quiet, though rumours to the contrary were freely circulated, and there are frequent panics among the Christians. Lieutenant Kitchener is of opinion the survey will proceed without interruption.

The old oak chair in which, according to the catalogue, Shakespeare sat when he wrote most of his plays, was sold by Messrs Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge on Saturday last, and fetched 45*l.* A fair, though not a perfect, copy of the old folio edition of the great dramatist's plays of 1623, sold for 16*l.*

THE SUPPLY OF MEAT.—It will be seen that, taking advantage of the public needs, a company has been formed, with a capital of 150,000*l.* in 2*l.* shares, with a view to extend the co-operative principle to the supply of butchers' meat by opening a central store, at which dead meat from Scotland and elsewhere will be sold wholesale and retail. Full details of the scheme are given in the prospectus which appears in another column.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

### GRAND PREMIUM GIFT.

THE  
LONDON FINE ART ASSOCIATION,  
148, STRAND, W.C.,

Have concluded arrangements by which each subscriber to this week's *NONCONFORMIST* will be entitled to receive one copy of a Magnificent Engraving by ZOBELL, of the celebrated painting, by the late

MELVILLE

entitled—

## "THE TRUE VINE"

(COPYRIGHT. 18in. by 30in.)

Of all the efforts that have previously been made for portraying portraits of our Saviour, none has ever received such universal approbation as that which the above beautiful picture commands. "I am the true vine, and My Father is the husbandman," are the words upon which the sublime subject is allegorically approached. Our blessed Lord is represented in the engraving demonstrating the truth of this Holy Word, and seeking for examples to illustrate His parables from the bountiful gifts of a beauteous nature which surround Him. Encircled by a vine, his right hand grasps a tendril of the plant while the left is outstretched in the action of illustration.

The artist has depicted with a master hand the overflowing look of ineffable and yearning love upon the Divine countenance, surrounded by the Heavenly halo. The vine on the left of our Lord has an axe cleft in the root thereof, symbolical of the words of John the Baptist in Matt. iii. ver. 10. "And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the tree, therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." Thus the antithesis of the picture is given. Our Lord holding in his right hand the growing, or true vine, unto which He likens Himself, while on the other hand is shadowed forth the destruction of the "tree which beareth not good fruit." In the background the short twilight of an Eastern evening is descending upon the mountains, at the foot of which grow spreading palms, and other Oriental trees.

None can look upon this picture without taking to heart the lesson inculcated by the Divine Teacher, which is illustrated in so soft and beautiful a manner by the present subject.

It is important that early application should be made for *THE TRUE VINE* by those who wish to become possessed of the whole set of pictures which will be published, as after the date mentioned below it will be too late to send for a copy of the above celebrated work.

It is particularly requested that the names and addresses of applicants may be written as legibly as possible, and that the instructions below may be carefully attended to. And to avoid confusion with the other publications of the London Fine Art Association, applicants are requested to write the name of the picture they apply for on the front outside the envelope.

### INSTRUCTIONS.

This Presentation Picture will be sent free to any part of Great Britain or Ireland securely packed, upon receipt of the Coupon found below, together with Seventeen Pence in stamps or Post Office Order for Fifteen Pence (*the latter much preferred*), to pay cost of case, transmission, copyright, and other charges. Post Office Orders should be made payable to Mr. HENRY STANLEY, General Post Office, London, but all applications must be addressed to 148, Strand.

No Copy will be sent without a Coupon, together with Seventeen Pence in Stamps or Post Office Order for Fifteen Pence, as stated above, except on receipt of **ONE GUINEA**, the ordinary retail price of the Engraving.

No. 1022.

### PREMIUM VOUCHER.

"THE TRUE VINE."  
ONE COPY.

FOR THE

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HENRY STANLEY,  
SECRETARY.

N.C.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Applications for copies of the *TRUE VINE* must be made at the CHIEF Office of the London Fine Art Association, 148, Strand, W.C., and not at the Offices of this Newspaper, and with each application the above Voucher, which will not be available after the 21st March, 1877, must be enclosed, and as the Premium Voucher for the above Engraving will not again appear in the *NONCONFORMIST*, early advantage should be taken of the present occasion.

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**The Nonconformist.**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1877.

**SUMMARY.**

GENERAL IGNATIEFF, suffering from "diplomatic ophthalmia," is visiting Berlin, where he has had prolonged interviews with Prince Bismarck, and is now on his way to Paris. Notwithstanding sinister rumours, there can be no doubt that the German Chancellor will give the special Russian envoy thoroughly pacific advice—advice which the St. Petersburg Cabinet is only too anxious to accept if it does not impair the prestige of the Emperor Alexander. The general is not to come to London—where he would hardly expect a favourable hearing, if the idea of a coercive policy towards Turkey still finds favour among Russian statesmen. But Count Schouvaloff, the Czar's ambassador here, has gone to Paris, and if he is not to act the part of oculist to General Ignatieff, he will doubtless open his eyes to the political situation in Downing-street.

The news from Constantinople does not improve. Its two most hopeful features are the increasing uneasiness of the Porte at its isolation in Europe, and the definite conclusion and proclamation of peace with Servia. The firman sanctioning the terms has been sent to Belgrade, and the negotiations with Montenegro

have been formally commenced—a twenty days' prolongation of the armistice for that purpose having been arranged. It has been often said that the state of things in Turkey has been described by the correspondent of the *Times* in exaggerated terms. Let us then turn to the last letter from Constantinople in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "Little by little," says this writer, "the old web of mystery has woven itself about the Court, and all the involvements of the past reign have wound their entanglements about the throne of Abdul Hamid. Except Midhat himself and the small band about him, no one really cared for the Constitution." The correspondent goes on to say:—

The Sultan accepted it because he believed it would improve the administration, to the defects of which he is fully alive. The great bulk of the official aristocracy was opposed to it. It had no hold upon the popular feeling, as is shown by the utter indifference of the people regarding the elections now in progress. The enthusiasm was for Midhat, or rather for the Grand Vizier, for this people always shouts on the side of the power of the day. As a working instrument the Constitution is ahead of the wants, comprehension, and aptitudes of the people. The mischief was that the Constitution, as represented by Midhat, did not take a well-disposed sovereign into its confidence, but setting itself at once in antagonism with him, drove him into the nets which Russia, but not Russia alone, spread about Dolma Baghtché. If Midhat's statesmanship had been on a par with his enthusiasm, he might have done better; as it is, he used his Constitution ably enough with the aid of Said and Edhem to foil the Conference, but in applying it practically his judgment took him all adrift. The result is that the old influences, that perverted the life of the uncle and brought him to his destruction, are now busy about the throne of the nephew.

This is a very serious description as coming from a friend of the Turks, and will receive more credit than a score of such official statements and denials as are being telegraphed from Constantinople. Later reports gave greater completeness to the picture. It is said that Russia, foiled at the several European Courts, is ready in the last resort to buy adequate concessions from Turkey by wholesale bribery of the Palace camarilla.

The proceedings of Parliament during the week have, on the whole, been remarkably tame. Some Government measures, notably the Prisons Bill, have been vigorously discussed; the Army Estimates were introduced and explained by Mr. Gathorne Hardy on Monday, before a select audience of less than half a hundred, and some considerable votes were subsequently taken; and the President of the Council has given notice that on Tuesday next he will present a bill "to consolidate and amend the Burial Acts"—which description foreshadows the deceptive character of the official panacea for a grievance which has so long been before Parliament. Last Wednesday, to the chagrin of the Government, Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen carried, by 192 to 141 votes, the second reading of of his bill for making valid in this country marriage with a deceased wife's sister solemnised between domiciled colonists in colonies where such marriages have been legalised. The description of the practical evils and delicate constitutional considerations arising from a conflict of the law on this subject in England and the colonies referred to, seems to have greatly impressed the House, and many Conservatives ventured to support the bill. But Sir Stafford Northcote has since declared his hostility to it; and we fear that, at the next stage, the vote will be more of a party character, if not actually fatal to this reasonable measure.

At the recent meeting at the Cannon-street Hotel, Mr. Cowen, M.P., strongly urged that the question of Scotch disestablishment was ripe enough to be brought before Parliament. We have yet to see, however, what course the Free General Assembly will take next May. Meanwhile, our Scotch correspondent, whose letter appears in another column, sends us some curious information. Leading Nonconformists north of the Tweed have, it seems, been sounded as to their willingness to join the Establishment "upon any terms"—that is to constitute a free Establishment, which will include all denominations. There has been an evident intention to take action in that sense during the present Session by proposing a new commission of inquiry, but the Government seem to be somewhat frightened by the resolute attitude taken up by the leading members of the Free Church, who indignantly decline all overtures. No one will be simple enough to suppose that Lord Beaconsfield has been suddenly smitten with a passion for the spiritual independence of the Church. What he wants is to serve the Tory cause in Scotland by getting increased votes for the party, and the sturdy Presbyterians are naturally disgusted with his scheming.

Surely the Prime Minister has enough work of this sort in watching the tide of reaction in the English constituencies. As was generally

expected, Mr. Hibbert has been triumphantly returned for Oldham in place of the late Mr. Cobbett, a Conservative; the Liberal party being entirely united in his favour. The full strength of the constituency was polled on the occasion, and Mr. Hibbert received some 900 votes more than were given to the highest of the successful Conservative candidates at the general election. Lancashire is thus redeeming its reputation as a Liberal county, and Oldham has worthily followed the example set by Manchester last year. In the Cornish borough of Launceston, the Solicitor-General has at length found a seat, and will probably be an acquisition to the House of Commons. But he did not get in without a contest. The owner of the Werrington property as much commands this seat as the Pembroke family that of Wilton—of which something is said by a correspondent elsewhere. But Mr. Collier, who came forward, was able to reduce the Conservative majority one-half, and hopes at some future time to succeed in counteracting landlord influence at Launceston.

President Hayes has been inaugurated at Washington with the customary honours, and the usual torchlight procession. The newspapers of different politics alike praise his Message as containing noble sentiments, and the outline of a policy which, duly carried out, will not fail to tranquillise the whole country. His Cabinet has not yet been completed. The appointment of Mr. Evarts, the accomplished lawyer, as Secretary of State, and of Mr. Carl Schurz, a genuine administrative reformer, as Secretary of the Interior, indicates that the new President is more disposed to recognise political capacity than party claims. His task will not be an easy one. In the newly-constituted Senate Mr. Hayes will hardly be able to reckon on a decided Republican majority, and in the House parties are almost equally divided.

Our American cousins, especially in the North, will not fail to be gratified at the distinction conferred upon "Uncle Tom" by his royal reception at Windsor Castle on Monday, when the Rev. Josiah Henson had an interesting interview with Her Majesty. Such incidents carry with them a considerable moral effect; for although the Americans know nothing of Sovereigns except as occasional visitors to the States, the name of Queen Victoria is held by them in as great veneration as among her own subjects throughout the British Empire.

**ANOTHER "GOLDEN BRIDGE."**

ALTHOUGH last week's report relative to the immediate demobilisation of the Russian army has not been actually confirmed, it is still evident that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg is casting about for adequate reasons to withdraw from its advanced position. Prince Gortschakoff's anxiety to rescue his Imperial master from the difficulties of the crisis is seen in the despatch of General Ignatieff on a mission to the Courts of Europe. This is the outward sign that the scheme of joint coercion, to be applied to Turkey after a year's grace, which was put forward by the Russian Chancellor as the only condition on which the threat of hostilities should be withdrawn, has met with no response from the other Powers. The threat of such joint coercion now would almost ensure armed intervention twelve months hence, and from such an engagement England, as well as the other Powers, would probably be unable to draw back. One and all have refused any such pledge, and General Ignatieff has now been sent forth to negotiate on a new basis at Berlin, Paris, and Vienna.

The proposals of the Russian diplomatist are understood to ignore the Conference programme altogether. The general carries a suggestion that the promises of administrative and other reforms which the Porte has undertaken to carry out should be embodied in a protocol, which would give the Powers a legal right to demand their execution. This would necessarily abrogate so much of the ninth Article of the Treaty of Paris as protects Turkey against foreign interference in her internal affairs. Apparently, there is much to be said in favour of this new proposal. In 1854 the Porte made large promises of reforms, none of which have to this day been carried into effect. It refused to act, because it was under no external constraint. In the greater exigency of 1877, the Porte has repeated and expanded those engagements, and it is now proposed to embody them in a formal document of which Europe may take cognisance. If, as an adequate inducement for Russia to disarm, it should simply be required that the Porte should sign "a protocol binding itself in regard to the internal administration of the Empire," this suggestion, unless put in an obnoxious form, or circumstances have materially changed, could hardly be rejected by our Government, seeing that it



is the identical proposal made by Lord Derby to Turkey in September last through Sir Henry Elliot.

The advantages that would result from such a scheme are obvious. It would put an end, for the present at least, to all fear of the outbreak of a war which could hardly be limited to Russia and Turkey. This is, in fact, the paramount consideration of the hour, and indeed the first article in the Eastern creed of Her Majesty's Ministers. It would imply the continued concert of all the European Powers in attempting to find a solution of the Eastern Question. It would be the means of renewing a moral pressure upon the Porte, which since the overthrow of Midhat Pasha seems now more likely to be operative. On the other hand, if our Government declared—as they certainly would declare—that by being parties to such an arrangement they did not pledge England to employ coercive measures at any time should Turkey not fulfil her promises, the protocol would be in danger of becoming a dead letter, so far as the Porte is concerned, though it would, for the time being, furnish Russia with a reasonable pretext for disarming. Perhaps the fact that General Ignatieff does not intend to visit England may be taken to imply that his scheme is not likely to find favour in Downing-street. This is, in our view, just one of those cases in which the superior knowledge of the Government of all the circumstances entitle them to forbearance, if not to implicit confidence. We cannot but think that, in their determination to keep England out of all entanglements that would oblige her, sooner or later, to have recourse to coercion, they are exercising a wise discretion. If, consistent with this principle, they can concur in any expedient which would facilitate the retreat of Russia, Parliament and public opinion would no doubt approve their action.

So far as Turkey is concerned, it is useless to disguise the truth. On Lord Salisbury's showing, she is hastening to ruin. The signing of such a protocol as is suggested would hardly ensure the execution of the new reforms. The power as well as the will to carry them out is ebbing away. The Ottoman Empire has, in the proper sense of the word, no adequate government. It is the prey of insatiable pashas, who live on the plunder of the country, and who have entirely recovered their ascendancy. The desperate state of Turkish finances must, ere long, precipitate a catastrophe; and it will be well for this country if that non-intervention policy which is now ostentatiously espoused by Lord Beaconsfield's Cabinet should not then be discarded under the plea of protecting "the important interests of England."

#### PRESIDENT HAYES AND HIS POLICY.

THE Presidential crisis in the United States has at length terminated, and after prolonged scenes of excitement and tumult in Congress, which at one time assumed an almost revolutionary character, Mr. Hayes was declared to be the lawfully elected President of the American Republic. We hardly know whether that gentleman is to be congratulated or commiserated on his election. In all constitutional countries defeat is ordinarily accepted by the beaten party with resignation, and the business of State continues to jog on with its accustomed regularity. But it will be difficult to reconcile the Democratic party throughout the country to the belief that, whatever may be the legal rights of Mr. Hayes, he is morally entitled to the position he now occupies. They will probably always be of opinion that if the electoral returns had been examined with a strict regard for legal right, Mr. Tilden would at the present moment have been President of the United States. Nevertheless the legality of the act which ultimately secured the election of the Republican candidate cannot be contested. Both parties agreed to refer the dispute to the Electoral Commission; and although there is too much reason to suspect that that body performed its task in a partisan spirit, yet no one will deny that its decision was absolutely binding on the country. It is only natural that in this case there should be a party of Irreconcilables. So great a crisis could not blow over without provoking the strongest ebullition of passion, and accordingly we are not surprised to learn that the wildest scenes of confusion took place in the House of Representatives during the counting of the votes, and that these demonstrations were accompanied by an unpleasantly familiar display of revolvers. The revolvers, however, were not used, and the Congressional atmosphere was at last restored to comparative equanimity. This fact reflects the utmost possible credit upon American politicians. The public out of doors value the good name of their institutions, and the peaceful order of their government, far above any question of political or

personal triumph; and it is only due to the great body of Democrats in Congress to say that they refused to act with Mr. Dudley Field and the Extremists, and determined, at whatever party sacrifice, to consider only the best interests of the country. The American constitutional system has passed through a severe ordeal, and in spite of admitted defects, it has borne the trial more satisfactorily than could have been expected.

The future must now largely depend upon the manner in which Mr. Hayes acquies himself of the duties of his office. If instead of endeavouring to rule as a party leader, he will steadily keep before him two facts—viz., that although declared elected by a majority of one, the popular majority is against him, and that the House of Representatives, which directly reflects the opinion of the nation, is in the hands of his political opponents—he may yet, by timely concessions and the exhibition of a conciliatory spirit, succeed in preventing that legislative deadlock which is the danger of the hour. That he desires to inaugurate his Presidency on these lines will be apparent to every one who reads the text of his first Message to Congress. One of his chief qualifications for the office was his known statesmanlike reserve; for as twice Governor of Ohio he has shown on more than one occasion that "silence is golden." But in this Message he has brought out another and equally valuable quality—that of knowing how to speak at the right moment, and at the same time of employing language characterised by manly simplicity and frankness. One principle he lays down ought to command general assent. He says:—

The permanent pacification of the country, upon such principles and by such measures as will secure the complete protection of all its citizens in the free enjoyment of all their Constitutional rights, is now the one subject in our public affairs which all thoughtful and patriotic citizens regard as of supreme importance.

Again, in referring to "the deplorable complications" which have grown out of "the peculiar relations" of the black and white races with each other, the Government, he says, must be one "which guards the interests of both races carefully and equally," and after vindicating the great Act of Emancipation as a measure which although necessarily disturbing in its immediate effects, was "wise, just, and providential," he affirms that he is "sincerely anxious to use every legitimate influence in favour of honest and efficient local self-government, as the true resource of those States for the promotion of the contentment and prosperity of their citizens." If words have any meaning, there cannot be a wide difference of opinion on the subject of the reorganisation of the South between Mr. Hayes and Mr. Tilden, although we fear that too many of the followers of the latter are still hankering after the good old times when, according to Chief Justice Taney's famous dictum, the negro had no rights which a white man was bound to respect.

Equal satisfaction will be afforded by the new President's emphatic declaration that, in his judgment, there should be a complete reform in the civil service of the United States. We understand from his trenchant remarks on the subject that he is in favour of a return to the primitive practice of the Republic, when appointments were made not as a reward for political services, but on public grounds alone, and when it was not the custom to herald the advent of a new party to power by reducing to beggary every postmaster and tidewater from Maine to California. If Mr. Hayes can succeed in carrying out the great reform which he advocates, he will have done much to strike at the roots of that corruption which is the bane of American political life. He does not venture to propose an improved method of conducting Presidential elections, but he suggests that the Presidential term should be extended from four to six years, and that re-election should be prohibited. He is no currency quack, and is therefore favourable to the speedy resumption of specie payments. Lastly, Mr. Hayes pays a high tribute to General Grant for having resorted to arbitration in the Alabama dispute, and declares that, in the event of serious misunderstandings arising between the United States and foreign Powers, it would "certainly be his disposition and hope to aid their settlement in the same peaceful and honourable way, thus securing to the country the great blessings of peace and mutual good offices with all nations of the world." On the whole, we think that the President's Message will produce an impression very favourable to his ability, sagacity, and patriotism, and that, much as some recent episodes in the Presidential contest are to be regretted, there is no reason to despair of the Republic.

Mr. Mapleson's new opera house on the Thames Embankment cannot, with the utmost exertions, be ready until the early season of next year.

## Literature.

### MR. PICTON'S RECENT LECTURES.\*

The publication of this little volume will disabuse many minds of loose impressions as to the drift of Mr. Picton's theological views, and the views of the school to which he may be said to belong. The author here very clearly and frankly defines his position. While he denies the miraculous element in the Gospels, and takes great pains to set forth his reasons for that denial, he does not seek to disparage, but rather to exalt, the spiritual potency with which they are endowed. Whether his arguments are sound or defective—and those who believe that the power to bring about supernatural events is quite within the capacity of a supernatural and omnipotent Being will question their validity—Mr. Picton's readers will not fail to be struck with his intense earnestness and reverential spirit. His lectures are addressed neither to those who have a simple faith which is untroubled by the intellectual movements of the time; nor to those whose heartfelt trust in the moral and transforming power of Christianity leads them to ignore practical difficulties which they cannot solve, or perhaps examine; nor, on the other hand, to those "who find a scornful pleasure in flouting men's dearest beliefs about God and the foundations of morality." They are addressed to that large and increasing class who can no longer rest their faith in God, or their hope of immortality, upon a ground which involves the violation of what are called natural laws, and who are seeking with earnestness, with pain, and without success, for atheology which, according to their view, is not contradicted by reason, and is in harmony with the ascertained facts of science. It is not so much Mr. Picton's object to destroy current beliefs as to strengthen the Christian faith with new, and what he holds to be more rational convictions—to set forth the truth, or what he regards as the truth. He speaks to those who have already denied, or, driven by inexorable logic, are in danger of denying too much; who, rejecting the miraculous traditions of the first Christian century, are near upon rejecting Christianity itself. He agrees with them that these traditions cannot be maintained; that the evidence on which they rest is too slender to bear their weight; and that they are discredited by the increased and more accurate scientific knowledge of modern times. But not for that reason is he ready to abandon the revelation of Jesus, or distrust the power of his redemption. It will thus be seen that Mr. Picton's position in respect to Christianity is so far peculiar, that he would retain all its spirituality while stripping it of most of its traditional surroundings.

The volume contains seven lectures, with an introduction, which is not the least valuable part of the whole. The first lecture is upon the authenticity and relative worth of the four Gospels. The second is on the doctrine of God as taught by Jesus; the third on His doctrine of man; the fourth on His doctrine of Redemption. The two following are upon miracles; and the subject of the last is Revelation. It is not our intention to review this book critically, or to enter into a discussion of its central position, and it is hardly necessary to say that our silence on matters so open to controversy, does not imply that we should be ready to accept Mr. Picton's standpoint. Readers of the *Nonconformist* are aware that theological controversy is not one of its characteristics. But apart from the subject-matter of this little volume, it is pre-eminently marked by great literary ability and beauty of style; by a reverent and conscientious statement of the grounds of the author's philosophical and religious belief; and by great depth of spirituality. It is too often the case that spiritual feeling perishes with the intellectual belief with which it was associated. The following quotation will show that this is not the case with Mr. Picton:—

Hold (he says) to your sacred tradition if you will, so far as it expands and does not narrow your heart. But do not expect to realise in it the living God, the Father of your spirit. Rather, He finds you and you find Him in every impulse towards a better life. For as that Eternal Power inspires the lilies of the field to clothe themselves with more than Solomon's glory, and the birds of the air to provide by instinct for their young, so does He touch you with an impulse to fulfil the law of your being, in a noble life. And if you accustom yourself to it, this way of regarding God will grow upon you until you have an abiding sense of a Divine presence and a constant incentive to that sort of prayer

\* *The Religion of Jesus: its Modern Difficulties and its Original Simplicity.* A Course of Lectures delivered in St. Thomas-square Chapel, Hackney, by J. ALLANSON PICTON, M.A. With an Introductory Chapter. (London: Upfield Green, Tenter-street, Moorgate-street. 1876.)



hose highest expression is work. . . . It is always in a realisation of the sacredness of duty that the sense of God is most impressive; always in the commanding sweetness of moral affections that the universal Divinity seems to be specially present.

We quote another passage as a favourable specimen of the main drift of Mr. Picton's teachings:—

From the tumult of passion rising within him at the intolerable hypocrisy of the Scribes and Pharisees at Jerusalem, how swift was the transition of feeling to that outburst of tears and pity with which he cried, "Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen doth gather her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." The whole atonement, the whole truth in it, is there—a compassionate meeting of Divine love with the human sin and perversity that has wronged it. And it is this that the memory, and the image, and the spirit of Jesus embody to us. Still, you cannot go from the better light before you without feeling that there is something in the universe that yearns over you, and moves you to return. You cannot do any wrong without injuring society, and so crucifying afresh the Son of God, inasmuch as all humanity is embraced in the heart of God. If you are a father wronging a family by your vices, childhood is Divine, and Christ pleads for its interests, and rebukes its wrongs. If you are a hard tyrannical husband, womanhood is Divine; and in the dealing of the Jews with the suffering Christ, there is an emblem of your self-willed and cruel deeds. If you are a selfish, grasping, unsympathetic man of business, bent only upon greed and aggrandisement, humanity is Divine, and its bleeding wounds cry to heaven against you and your indifference.

#### "PICTURESQUE EUROPE."

This is distinctly a book of beauties—the first instalment of what promises to throw into the shade the various fragmentary efforts in the same direction that have already been made. The engravings, both on steel and on wood, are on a scale sufficient to exhibit clearly the leading characteristics, which are most frequently lost through the small space allowed in guide books, and even in books of higher pretensions; while the plan of dividing the literary portion amongst various hands allows each one to work his speciality—in a word, it limits him to what he really knows and can do well. The present volume, which is titled "The British Isles," forms a fitting introduction. Beginning with home scenery, it has the advantage of appealing to a wider interest; but on the other hand there is the drawback that it makes criticism more easy through the nearness and the familiarity of the scenes described. This, however, Messrs. Cassell have reduced to a minimum by the exceeding care that has been taken in the choice of subject and of effect no less than in minute faithfulness in details. Thus the drawback is transformed into a gain, inasmuch as the worth of the work, as affording a genuine representation, every one can in a measure test by his own recollections. It is a circumstance which has often been a matter of wonder, that so much which is characteristic, varied, and unsurpassed in our own home scenery—whether wild and rugged, as in Scotland and Wales, or soft and pastoral, as on the banks of the Thames, or something of a mixed or middle character, as in Ireland—is neglected in favour of what is found at a distance; and this work, besides the pleasure that it will give as a mere work of art, must have a tendency to lift our own scenery into its proper place in the minds of many who might otherwise have continued to neglect it for Switzerland or Italy, or France, Norway, or Iceland.

"Picturesque Europe" is pre-eminently a drawing-room book, and does not aim at exhaustiveness in detail. It thoroughly realises the intention as intimated in the introduction:—

We have undertaken and shall prosecute our work, not in the spirit of one who makes a tour-book or itinerary, but in that of philosophic and æsthetic observation. We design to illustrate the peculiar features and character of every land by a selection of its representative scenery and monuments, historic, artistic, political, and religious; and by the light reflected from these to exhibit the genius and character of the people, content, here and there, to pass by something that might arrest the eye or the foot of the writer, but which should not retard or turn aside the steps of him who has a higher and greater object to attain. We should never get out of a forest or a garden if we were to linger in admiration over every noble tree and lovely flower.

In this the projectors have shown wisdom. The general characteristics of the scenery of the various districts are described, and specific qualities pointed out, very much in the same liberal and selective spirit as characterised Dr. Norman Macleod's essay on the Highland scenery, and marked Dean Howson's book on the Dee, or Rimmer's "Architectural Beauties of England." The volume contains thirteen chapters or sections. Of these, the Rev. T. G. Bonney—who here proves once more that successful Alpine mountaineering need only clear the eye

for finer appreciation of home scenery—writes no fewer than seven, all touched with his delicate and clear discernment of essentials in landscape. Mr. Bonney's contributions are Windsor, North Wales, Warwick, and Stratford, the dales of Derbyshire, the south coast (from Portsmouth to the Lizard), English abbeys and churches, and the Land's End. The smooth and beautiful scenery of Windsor is described in a style alike suitable and polished; but we prefer his sketches of Wales and the Derbyshire dales as more spirited. Mr. Oscar Browning gathers up the interesting facts about Eton as only one who had been long familiar with them could do. Mr. W. Senior is, of course, at home in the forest scenery of Great Britain; Mr. John Francis Waller pictures Ireland, and celebrates, as we should have expected, the beauty of its river scenery—more especially that of Blackwater; and Mr. James Grant writes with fine taste and enthusiasm of the scenery of Scotland, which both in the Highlands and Lowlands he knows so well. We are glad to see that he does more justice to Linlithgow than some have done. But Edinburgh, alas! is losing rapidly the wondrously mixed character of ancient and modern, on which he lovingly dwells; and year by year the old edifices—uncomfortable but picturesque—give way under modern demands, leaving the Edinburgh of the former century a name and a memory. Even some of the buildings, of which we have engravings here, are, to use the slang words, "going! gone!" And from the artistic point of view it will be long ere the splendid new public structures can atone for them. Mr. Grant eloquently writes:—

When viewed from the base of those stupendous Grecian columns which form part of what was to be a monument to "The Glory of God and the Scottish soldiers who fell in the war with France," one cannot fail to be impressed by the wonderful combinations of beauty produced there by art, by nature, and by chance. Before the eye stretches the long vista of Princes-street, till tapered spire and dusky dome seem to blend with the green ridges of Corstorphine. On the one side is all the quick life of to-day; but beyond the valley with its bridges, and the straight bank of the Earthen Mound, with its two Grecian edifices, rises rugged, grey, and dark, the wondrous ridge of the ancient city, and the castle on its rock, looming grim and vast; and over both hover the august traditions of an old and warlike kingdom. High over the ridged steep rises St. Giles's airy crown, from where, in all its quaint and picturesque beauty, the old city looks down upon the new. "Two times are brought face to face," says a writer, "and yet are separated by a thousand years. Wonderful on winter nights, when the gully is filled with darkness, and out of it rises, against the sombre blue and the frosty stars, that mass of bulwark and gloom, pierced and quivering with innumerable lights. A city rises up before you, painted by fire on night." High in air a bridge of light leaps the chasm; a few emerald lamps, like glow-worms, and a solitary crimson one, are twinkling about in the railway station below. That ridged and chimneyed bulk of blackness, with splendour bursting out at every pore, is the wonderful Old Town, the centre of Scottish history. By night the castle and its rock—

"Where twisted lie the monarchy's lost gems, Since Fergus, father of a hundred kings"—are always involved in sombre gloom; but by day they look down upon the double city with something of stern peacefulness. The rock with its brown cliffs, trees, and bushes, and the fortress with its grey batteries, cast a deep shadow at noon over these beautiful gardens where the children gambol and the railway engine sends up its echoed shriek; but grander still are all the effects of the broken masses of light and shade, when the golden sunset is fading behind the dark hills of Corstorphine.

Could Venice, or Verona, or Rome itself have yielded a finer word-picture? The above passage suggests a treasure of memories, of loving looks, and long and delightful rambles and "thoughts of other days."

There are only two of the woodcuts which strike us as beneath the general standard of fineness in execution. These are the Stream from Lyn Idwal, in Wales, and Staircase to Eton Upper School. On the other hand, nothing in wood could surpass Penolver Point (p. 240), Burnham Beeches, at p. 126, or Hurstmonceaux Castle, Coney Hill, Hayes Common, Kent, or Strancally Castle, Ireland, or Mr. Whympers' views in Richmond and Bushey Parks, or that of the Irish Scalp, at p. 176. The steel engraving of Windsor and the Thames from Richmond-hill are masterpieces, reflecting that graceful and dreamy mixture of light and shade which it is so difficult to preserve along with anything like clear definition; and some others, as one in particular, of a Welsh scene, is masterly for its qualities of shade. But, where all attains so high a level of excellence, it is invidious to particularise. Suffice it to say that, as we take it, this book may be held to inaugurate a new style of illustrated book of travel.

#### THE "EXPOSITOR."

The fourth volume of the "Expositor," which is now before us, is fully equal to any

of its predecessors. Mr. Samuel Cox is quite clear as to the real position which the "Expositor" may fill, and is careful not to wander into other lines. It is distinctly a Biblical and expository magazine. It aims to infuse into Biblical criticism and exegesis as much of popular style and attractiveness as is consistent with the communication of the later results of research. The editor is expansive enough in his sympathies to see that to preserve for the Scriptures their authoritative place, it is needful to exhibit them freely under the varied lights of modern science. His great purpose, indeed, seems to be to show how far the Bible may not only be harmonised with these discoveries, but, liberally and rationally taken, may be helpful in illustrating and interpreting what is at best partial and only tentative. Such a work, in a quiet, but not less effective way, may be, and is, influential so far against the positivism and ultra-dogmatism of science. Thus, the more marked become the points of divergence between present day thinking and the received beliefs, the more valuable becomes such a publication as the *Expositor*. Mr. Cox has all along stood in the old ways, but has never ceased to look to the new.

In the present volume he illustrates this position as much by his own pen as by the selection he has given us from the writings of others. His study of the Book of Job, of which there is, we presume, about a fourth part in this volume, is marked by close thought, by careful comparisons of the many divergent views which have been given at various times, and by serious and deliberate endeavour to get at the human and eternal meaning of that earliest and most remarkable effort to throw light on "the problem of man's destiny on earth." Not that Mr. Cox is incompetent to cope with detail. One of his most characteristic traits is his ability patiently to look along large reaches of fact, to find the typical and essential points, and to show how they unitedly bear on broader questions. What he did for Ecclesiastes in the "Quest of the Chief Good," he now aims at doing for this greater and more difficult work. The patient method of comparison of separate and often apparently unimportant points has a kind of cumulative force; and by few Biblical critics of the present day has it been more efficiently used than by the editor of the *Expositor*. We quote the following, in which Mr. Cox exhibits the "Book of Job" as presenting a formidable difficulty in the way of those later critics who, like the author of "Supernatural Religion," would divorce the ethical from the miraculous element in the Scriptures—holding that we gain infinitely more than we lose in abandoning the belief in Divine revelation; that, while retaining pure and unimpaired the treasure of Christian morality, we relinquish nothing but the debasing elements added to it by human superstition:—

Now it would be hard to find a more cogent and complete answer to this argument for the sufficiency of morality apart from revelation than that supplied by the "Book of Job," argues Mr. Cox. For obviously, Job had no miraculous and supernatural revelation of the will of God. He moved and lived and had his being outside the charmed and sacred circle in which such revelations were, or were supposed to be, vouchsafed. His one importunate complaint throughout the book is that he cannot see God, nor hear His voice, nor learn what His will and intentions are. There is not a single reference in the poem to the Hebrew law, to the sacred writings accredited by the Jews, or to the forms of life and worship which obtained among them. He is indebted for all that he knows of God to the great primitive tradition, to the inherited and developed conceptions of the human mind. And, on the other hand, it is equally obvious that he had a pure and noble morality, hardly inferior to that taught by Christ himself. The tumultuous agitation and excitement of his spirit under the trials to which he was exposed prove him to be very man; and his own description of the temptation which he successfully encountered (cp. chap. xxi.), shows that he was open to the very influences by which men in all ages have been turned from righteousness. And yet no one can read the poem without feeling throughout that he is brought into contact with a man of singularly pure, high, and noble soul; his own delineation of himself (chaps. xix. and xxvi.) show him to have been a masterpiece of human goodness, with "a daily beauty in his life" up to the level of most men's exceptional and heroic moments; and Jehovah Himself is represented as pronouncing him what we feel him to be—"a perfect man and upright, one that feareth God and escheweth evil."

In this case, then, the conditions on which modern scepticism builds its hopes for the race were fulfilled; without a supernatural revelation, he was nevertheless possessed of a morality as pure and high as can well be conceived. He ought, therefore, on this hypothesis, not only to have been content, but to have felt that he was infinitely better off than if a Divine revelation had been added to the pure and unimpaired treasure of his morality. Was he content with his treasure then? Did he feel that it met and satisfied every craving of his spirit? On the contrary, his whole soul goes forth in a piercing cry for the very revelation which our modern sceptics pronounce utterly superfluous. What they would contemptuously "abandon" he passionately craves and insists upon. He is tortured by the very longings which they assure us it was impossible he should ever experience, and knew no rest until he saw for himself the God of whom he had heard with the hear-

\* *Picturesque Europe*. With illustrations on steel and wood by the most eminent artists. Part I.: The British Isles. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.)

\* *The Expositor*. Vol. IV. Edited by the Rev. SAMUEL COX. (London: Hodder and Stoughton.)



ing of the ear, and in the light of that great Revelation learned how "vile" he was.

Dean Payne Smith's articles on "the Schools of the Prophets" are full of learning and helpful suggestions. Professor Reynolds shows at once great thoughtfulness and clearness of style in his First Epistle to Timothy; and the addenda to the "Vindictive Psalms" by Mr. Hammond are able and ingenious, if not in all points quite satisfactory. Mr. Rawson Lumby brings much light to St. Peter's Epistles. Professor William Robertson Smith, M.A., is laboured and careful in his article on the "Sixteenth Psalm," but on a higher critical plane, it is difficult to reconcile some of his expressions with others in other places—for example, to reconcile the absolute deliverance, "the enjoyment and fellowship of God spoken of in the Bible is *never* mystical, always moral," with certain expressions quite as absolute when he is writing in one place on the Hebrew prophets. But it is difficult, we daresay, to get exact learning along with exact logical thinking. Professor Plumtre is more dry than he need to be in the "Potter of the Clay," but Carpus is every way excellent on the "Rainbow."

#### THE MAGAZINES FOR MARCH.

There are sure to be one or two good articles out of the many literary papers in the *Cornhill*, and there are two of such this month. One is on Chaucer's Love Poetry, a delicate, and not altogether a delicate, subject. Here it is treated with reserve, and with some originality of criticism. On the whole, our author is inclined to rate Chaucer lower than he has hitherto been rated, but he writes upon a special aspect of the poet, and that not his best, which is in his dealing with external nature. The "Gossip of History" is the other literary article, which has some amusing and not altogether well-worn anecdotes. Here are two—first of Marlborough:—

Few have the noble magnanimity of Bolingbroke, before whom the character of his political enemy Marlborough was once discussed. Someone appealed to Bolingbroke as to whether the Duke had not been extremely avaricious. "He was so great a man," replied Bolingbroke, "that I have forgotten his vices." It is to be feared, nevertheless, that Marlborough's avarice cannot be denied, and it is, indeed, supported by a hundred stories. A beggar once asked an alms of Lord Peterborough, and called him by mistake, "My Lord Marlborough." "I am not Lord Marlborough," replied the earl, "and to prove it to you, here is a guinea."

Next of Louis XIV.:—

Now it chanced that the members of the King's household claimed certain privileges which were disputed them by the corporation of the town of St. Germain's. Anxious to obtain the King's decision on the matter, the members of the household resolved to send a deputation to His Majesty to urge their claims. Bazire and Soulaigre, two of the King's valets, undertook to act as deputies, and obtained without difficulty an audience of the sovereign. The next morning, after the early *levée*, Louis ordered the deputation to be introduced, and at the same time assumed his most imposing look. Bazire, who was to speak, began to have an uncomfortable sinking at the pit of the stomach, and his knees were loosened with terror; he just managed to stammer out the word "Sire." Having repeated this word two or three times, he was seized with a felicitous inspiration. "Sire," he once more began (and concluded), "here is Soulaigre." Soulaigre, looking unutterably wretched, commenced in his turn, "Sire . . . sire . . . sire."—then (oh, happy thought!) ended like his colleague, "Sire, here is Bazire." The King smiled, and made answer, "Gentlemen, I know the motive which has brought you here; I will see that your petition is granted, and I am very satisfied with the manner in which you have fulfilled your mission as deputies."

"Nils Jensen" is pleasant and fresh, and "Turkish Ways and Turkish Women" is well continued. The two tales keep to their high mark.

So of the two tales in *Blackwood*, both of which exhibit freshness and power; but the paper of the number is on "Balzac," by the same pen which lately gave us "Georges Sand." Here we have special knowledge and literary instinct, with charitable reserve of description, yet truthfulness of indication. But for a genial, loving sketch, commend us to that on Lord Neaves, lately dead, yet who had to do with the "early beginning" of *Blackwood*. How many years it takes us back when we read of the famous old contributors:—

Wilson, the Jove of modern criticism and poetic commentary, with hyacinthine locks upon the wind; the sagacious simple Shepherd, with racy, homely, quaint admixture of wit and foolishness, humility and self-conceit; Lockhart, keen and cold as a knife, with a touch of poison sometimes on the blade; Aytoun, with the twinkle in his eye of fun unmalicious, mirth for mirth's sake, the delightful fooleries of "Bon Gaultier," and more perfect satire, confusing to dull critics, of "Firmilian." Good men and mighty are still in their harness; but the manner of being is changed. We have never been so young in our youngest days as these men were as long as life lasted. They are all gone, and with them many another. The gentle Ferrier, wise and scholarly, with a simple warmth of humanity through all his speculations; the refined and graceful culture of George Moir; the mild wisdom and genial Scotch humour of his namesake, Delta, the kindest of physicians;—how many more!

The writer of the political article informs us in regard to Turkey, that "a policy of coercion is absolutely impracticable; if these difficulties cannot be met without coercion, Turkey has rushed to her fate"—which we thought we knew before. There is nothing remarkable in the other articles—yes, are we expected to believe this? It is remarkable if we are:—

One day while I was standing near the Venus de Medici, three healthy-looking girls, who were evidently enjoying Florence amazingly, bounced into the octagon, and were grouped round the figure. "Wall, that's alagant!" said one; "It's pretty—I du like that!" exclaimed the second; "Guess it's fust-rate," assented the third. They soon turned away, after having distinguished the Venus with these expressions of their approbation. There must have been a decided advance in taste since a countryman of theirs, in reference to this very statue, took occasion to express his disapproval of "stone gals" in general.

*Fraser* is dull, and wants lightening, for it carries too heavy a freight. There is good practical suggestion in an article on "Discipline and Seaman-ship in the Navy," and there is quieting information in "Imperial Delhi and the English Raj." Professor Newman, with all his critical skill, has not made plain the Etruscan inscriptions, but Mr. Proctor is very plain indeed in some of his criticisms upon imaginative scholars who have written upon the "Religion of the Great Pyramid." We entirely agree with the able Chinaman who writes on the "Foreign Relations of China," and in all his remarks upon our dealings with his country. The "Norfolk Broads" is pleasant and tempting. Dr. Carpenter writes, of course, with ability upon "Mesmerism, Odyllism, Table Turning, and Spiritualism," but although we can agree in his results, we cannot say that he writes with logical conclusiveness.

*Macmillan's* is an extremely able number. The personal notice of Charles Kingsley is delightfully written, and Mr. Goldwin Smith views the American Presidential Election with the calmness of an historical philosopher. These are the two articles of the number. Mr. Freeman, however, in addition, has some caustic criticism relating to Mr. Lowe and Owens' College, and there are papers, of more or less interest, on the Boiling Lake of the Antilles, French Novels and French Life, and a sketch during the Conference at Constantinople. Mrs. Oliphant's tale is as good as though she had not written all that she has written.

A magnificent piece of rhythm is Mr. Swinburne's "Sailing of the Swallow," in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and full of colour and life. Mr. Hepworth Dixon continues his article on Palestine, the subject this time being the "Holy Sepulchre," and he contributes a new and interesting fact:—

I have the good fortune to announce one of those prime discoveries in the Holy City which repays us for many labours, justifying much past effort, and excites to new and extended zeal. Evidence has at length been found in support of the great Christian tradition which underlies nearly all of our sacred history—that the Church of the Resurrection, generally called the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, stands on the site of an ancient burying-place of the Jews—an ancient burying-place in the sense of being older than the actual time of our Lord's trial and martyrdom. Everyone who knows the fierce warfare now waged on the subject of our sacred sites, and more than all the rest, on that of the Holy Sepulchre, will see that this capital fact, when proved, must go to the root of Robinson's heresy, and all that has grown up since his time on the soil of that heresy. One of the able and energetic workers for the Palestine Exploration Fund, M. Clermont Ganneau, has had an opportunity of placing beyond the reach of reasonable doubt the important fact that the famous Grotto opening from the Chapel of the Syrians, on the western side of the Rotunda, is an ancient, rock-cut Jewish sepulchre. The tale of his discovery is curious.

Mr. Proctor is generally soaring into the heavens, and now he takes us down into the depths of the sea, in writing of strange sea creatures. There are other articles, but of no special merit.

There is a good paper on Canning in the *Temple Bar*, and an equally good one on Molière—with plenty of fair criticism. And the writer on "Sir Christopher Wren," has written more genially than most of his predecessors have done, who have usually enlarged upon the injustice done to this great architect. He brings also into greater prominence the worth of the man. Perhaps it is not often considered that he must have been superior to his work. Yet that was the case. We have an amusing "Handful of Miracles" in a paper with that title, and there is not a little fresh matter in the gossip "About Jockeys," with some strange tales. To be a good jockey nowadays seems to be more profitable than to be a Prime Minister—almost as profitable as it is to be an archbishop. Mr. Trollope brings on the "American Senator," but, as we have said before, we see and hear too little of that ingenious gentleman.

The most striking paper in *Belgravia* is Mr. Proctor's "Suns in Flames," having reference to the two stars that have lately caused such excite-

ment amongst astronomers. It seems to be possible that our own sun may one day "melt with fervent heat," but Mr. Proctor says:—

As Sir W. Herschel long since pointed out, we can recognise in various parts of the heavens various stages of development, and chief among the regions where as yet nature's work seems incomplete, is the Galactic zone—especially that half of it where the Milky Way consists of irregular streams and clouds of stellar light. As there is no reason for believing that our sun belongs to this part of the galaxy, but on the contrary good ground for considering that he belongs to the class of insulated stars, few of which have shown signs of irregular variation, while none have ever blazed suddenly out with many hundred times their former lustre, we may fairly infer a very high degree of probability in favour of the belief that, for many ages still to come, the sun will continue to discharge his duties as fire, light, and life of the solar system.

There are papers above the average on Dante's homes and haunts, on Lucy Hutchinson, and the fiction is also superior.

*Tinsley's Magazine* is amusing with its light literature; but this month has nothing particularly striking—not even the "Silly-Billy Ballad," the first of which was really humorous. Mr. Godfrey Turner, however, writes with common sense on "Newspaper English"; but is he not himself responsible for much of that?—*London Society*, also, is amusing enough in its way, but has nothing special to offer to us this month. *St. James's Magazine* is entirely below its own average as well as the average of magazine writing. But for Miss Kortwright's tale, which has real dramatic power, there would be little worth reading in the present number. We cannot say the same of the *Argosy*, to which Johnny Ludlow contributes one of his best papers, yet, again, it is a melancholy one. Johnny must have seen more than his share of misery in life. With the exception of Mr. Charles Wood's paper on "Holland," which we read with genuine interest, the rest of the magazine consists of light fiction. *The Argonaut* has three thoroughly good papers—one on "Local Work and Responsibility," which we should like all young men to read; one on King Harold's Church at Waltham; and one on Soochow, the last by Mr. E. R. Barrett.

*Cassell's Family Magazine* has one paper which will have a practical interest to many. It is entitled, "How we made both ends meet." How? By "cutting down"—and keeping to it. There is a good chat about coffee, a suitable paper on "Gardening in March," and some sensible advice for the spring months, by the Family Doctor—only, when he recommends drugs, we say, "Don't take one of them." Mr. Proctor tells us how great storms arise, and there are other good serial and occasional papers. In the *Quiver* we are attracted by Dr. Farrar's sermon on the "Rainbow Round about the Throne," but Dr. Hanna has two superior papers on the "Two Givers," and Mr. Statham one on "Sarcasm."

In the *Sunday at Home* Mr. Paxton Hood has three very readable papers, on Rowland Hill and Mr. Bardeley, a graphic article on "A Passover Night in Gerizim."—Miss Bird continues her capital articles on "Australia Felix" in the *Leisure Hour*, where also Mr. Paxton Hood is original and amusing on the "Great Smith Family." We are glad to see the paper on Mr. Margary.—*Good Words* is uncommonly good. Mr. Trollope leads the way in his humorous tale about "Frau Frohmann"; Captain Markham tells of his life in the Arctic Regions; Mr. Augustus Hare is chatty on the "Inns of Court"; and there are other papers by Major Butler and Principal Tulloch.—In the *Sunday Magazine* we are most attracted by "John Halifax's" "Two Little Tinkers," the "Casual Labourer" a singular sketch of Riverside Life, Mr. Page's "Medical Missions in London," which does one good to read, and Mr. R. H. Smith's genial verses on "His Little Child."

*Evening Hours* is reprinting the "Barton Experiment," reviewed by us a week or two ago, but the original matter is as good. Instance Professor Levi's paper about "Work and Pay"; Mr. Gilbert's "Kordians and the Woodman"—a new view of one of our favourite authors, and the "Bethnal-green Silk Weaver," a painfully popular sketch in London life.—In the *Day of Rest* we like best Mr. Proctor's "Sunday Reveries of an Astronomer" and the striking legend of the "Crown of Glory," but there are twenty more articles, all good, and twenty-seven illustrations.

The *Family Treasury* comes to us from Scotland. Here, amongst other matter, Professor Cairns has an interesting paper on Dr. Macsewan; Dr. Macmillan writes on the "Apian Way," and the editor contributes some remarkably fresh notes under the title of the "Outlook," where there is vigorous and healthy writing suggested by the



events of the day.—The *Evangelical* has an admirable portrait of the Rev. Robert Macbeth, of Hammersmith, and articles by Dr. Mellor, Mr. Bright, of Dorking, Dr. Guthrie, and others.—The *Congregationalist* will excite special interest by its article on Dr. Robert Vaughan—a paper written with ability, judgment, and sagacity. The Rev. G. S. Barrett writes on 'Gospel Texts' devoutly and faithfully, and Dr. Aveling on "Church Administration." There is a very fresh paper also on "Dutch Protestantism."—The *Sword and Trowel* is always itself—as genuine this month as ever.—The *Fountain* is a new venture: it has eight brief articles by Dr. Parker, and much miscellaneous writing. We can hardly judge of its distinctive characteristics as yet.—The *Metropolitan Pulpit*, which reaches us from New York, is also new. It consists of outlines of sermons by the principal preachers of New York and Brooklyn. In the five numbers before us there are more than fifty outlines, which, on the whole, raise one's opinion of the power of the American pulpit.

*Little Folks* is very attractive and full of variety. The leading tale is admirable.—In *Good Things* Mr. George MacDonald's "Princess and Curdie" is enough for a number.

We have also received:—*Myra's Journal*, as invaluable to ladies as ever; *Hardwicke's Science Gossip*, with its full scientific information; the *Fireside*; the *Christian Treasury*; the *Church Sunday School Magazine*; the *Foreign Church Chronicle* with some very interesting papers—but from an Episcopalian point of view—on foreign ecclesiastical affairs; the *Gardener's Magazine*—one of the most wonderful of six pennyworths; the *Christian Globe*, equally wonderful, the *Lily Magazine*, the *Tract Magazine*, &c. Surely there is something for everybody in our present periodical literature?

## BRIEF NOTICES.

*Childhood a Hundred Years Ago.* By SARAH TYTLER, author of "Papers for Thoughtful Girls." With Chromographs after Sir Joshua Reynolds. (Marcus Ward and Co.) This is a beautiful and attractive book, well suited for a gift to either old or young. Miss Tytler's style is just a little too involved and weighty for a child's book pure and simple; but for this kind of work it is fairly well suited—being something between the two; and permitting, as it does, a certain amount of rambling and digressive anecdote of which she apparently possesses a good store. She has read well in diaries of the period, and has let little of importance escape her, but she now and then, in view even of her own purpose, imparts too much of a bookish air to the volume. This, however, of King George bathing is very good:—

Royalty taking a dip in those mannerly days is difficult to contemplate unmoved. With what forms and ceremonies, and according to what strict precedents, did the dipper venture to lay hands on a refractory little princess, and duck her three times over the head before she suffered the royal mien to escape and draw breath? The vivacious chronicler, Fanny Burney, is not entirely wanting in details. The royal bathing machines were adorned with mottoes. The bathers on the staff of the royal dippers wore "God Save the King" in bandeaux round their bonnets and in large letters on girdles round the waists of their flannel dresses. As His Majesty bathed for the first time, a band of music, concealed in a neighbouring machine, which had followed his into the water, struck up "God Save the King" the moment his head popped under water.

The chromographs are as beautiful as we could expect colour-printing after such delicate paintings to be; and this is saying a good deal, for the effort was very risky, and cannot be said to be in all points successful in this case.

*Landseer's Dogs; and Other Stories.* By SARAH TYTLER. With Chromographs of Paintings by Sir Edward Landseer. (Marcus Ward and Co.) This is a companion volume to the above, and in some respects we like it better. Miss Tytler appears to be a genuine lover of animals, and is full of anecdotes relating to them, as of the celebrities of past days. She writes with evident love of her subject, and, though we must advance the same mild criticism of her style in this case as on the *Childhood* volume, still she shows herself so full of matter—of facts and anecdotes—that we ought not to complain. We are glad to see that she here retells the attractive story of Skatta: he seems to have been but one among many favourites. It is no small praise to say that the letterpress is fully worthy of the accompanying chromos, which are in some instances beautiful, though in general too highly coloured; the process hardly allowing that neutrality of tint which goes for so much in great paintings. On the whole, this is a very beautiful book, and one which we have no doubt will be cherished by the youngsters in many a home.

*English Echoes of German Song.* Translated by Dr. R. E. WALLIS, Dr. J. D. MORRELL, and F. D'ANVERS. Edited by F. D'ANVERS. With twelve engravings on steel. (Marcus Ward and Co.) This is a third book of Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co.'s series of presentation books. It is, of course, more exclusively meant for adults than the other two. The book is got up with great care—the steel plates are exceedingly clear and beautiful, fine in light and shade, and showing in special points like the very finest etchings. The translations are well done, generally from pieces well-selected for such a purpose from the great storehouse of German poetry. Now and then, however, we come on a needlessly stiff rendering, where, clearly, the translator has somewhat lost the spirit of the German. But this is exceptional. Fine perception and good taste are generally noticeable; and if we had space we could have justified this remark by quoting the version of Hermann Lingg's "Beware," at p. 22, and of Chamisso's well-known "Bride's Song" at p. 27. The first and last verse of the latter is exquisitely done—

O ring upon my finger,  
My little golden ring!  
Close to my lips I press thee,  
My heart's most precious thing!

*The Footsteps of St. Peter: Being the Life and Times of the Apostle.* By J. R. MACDUFF, D.D. (London: James Nisbet and Co.) Dr. Macduff has written much—we find no fewer than forty books of his advertised within the boards of this volume, ranging in price from one shilling to six shillings and sixpence—and has sometimes spread out his gold (for he has gold) into very thin leaf. But we are bound to say that "The Footsteps of St. Peter" is a very excellent book, one which is fitted to be very useful to ordinary Christian readers and very suggestive to preachers. The story of all that is known of Peter is told with considerable point, and not with too much elaboration or fulness. The various questions connected with the Apostle's name are considered intelligently and satisfactorily, and we can recommend the book without reserve as one likely to be read with pleasure and profit. It is written with all the advantage to be derived from a personal familiarity with many of the scenes intimately connected with "The Footsteps of St. Peter."

*Heroes of Faith: Lectures on the Eleventh Chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews.* By C. J. VAUGHAN, D.D., Master of the Temple. (London: Macmillan and Co.) These lectures were delivered at Sunday evening services in St. Andrew's Church, Holborn. Like all Dr. Vaughan's sermons, they endeavour to "combine exposition with exhortation," of which endeavour the author says:—"To be thorough without being pedantic; to bring out the exact meaning of the original without falling into subtleties unsuitable for the pulpit; to pay due reverence to the letter of Scripture, without forgetting that it is the spirit alone which quickens—is a work of anxiety as well as toil to the preacher who attempts it." Most true is this. And Dr. Vaughan succeeds in accomplishing it more than most preachers. But we cannot help thinking that intelligent congregations would "stand" something more thorough and robust than the Master of the Temple gives us in his many volumes. At the same time, we cannot but commend the lucidity and naturalness of his style.

*Paradise Lost, as Originally Published by John Milton: Being a Facsimile Reproduction of the First Edition.* With an Introduction by DAVID MASSON, M.A., LL.D., author of the "Life of John Milton." (Elliot Stock.) This latest of Mr. Elliot Stock's reprints will not be the least prized. Professor Masson in his introduction gives a very clear and valuable résumé of the facts connected with the various editions of the great epic, which students will be pleased to have in such a condensed and convenient form; and it is evident that everything has been done that could be done to obtain a faithful and true reproduction of Milton's first edition. It is very painful to read that "in 1727, when the Tonsons were already rolling in wealth, much of it derived from their numerous editions of 'Paradise Lost,' and other poems of Milton, in all variety of forms, Milton's widow died in extreme old age in straightened circumstances at Nantwich, and Milton's youngest and last surviving daughter, Deborah Clarke, died in mere penury in London." The Royal Commissioners on Copyright might do well to consider the bearing of these facts upon the questions now before them.

*A Bible Dictionary: Being a Comprehensive Digest of the History and Antiquities of the Hebrew and neighbouring nations: the Natural History,*

*Geography, and Literature of the Sacred Writings, with reference to the latest researches.* By the Rev. JAMES AUSTIN BASTOW. Fourth edition. (Hodder and Stoughton.) The appearance of a fourth edition of this work shows that it is appreciated. The author has wisely taken advantage of later researches to correct and materially add to his work. It is thus, notwithstanding the necessary compression, very complete, and few are the terms likely to occur to the Bible student which he will not find here in their proper place. Particularly would we refer to the short articles under such heads as "Capernaum," where the results of the recent explorations by the Palestine Exploration Society are succinctly given in little. The dictionary is fitted to fill a place of its own, which we have but little doubt that it will keep, as it deserves to do.

*Psalms, Hymns, and Passages of Scripture for Christian Worship, with Appendix.* (J. F. Shaw and Co.) This collection, first published in 1853, was made by the Congregational ministers of Leeds, and contained in its original form 949 distinct compositions. It has been adopted by numerous congregations, especially in the Northern and Midland counties, and is deservedly increasing in popularity. The "Appendix," published in 1874, was compiled by the late Rev. G. W. Conder. It contains 260 additional hymns, chants, anthems, etc., and crowns and completes the former work. In no other hymnal will there be found so large a proportion of good hymns as in the "Leeds Hymn Book." Richness of poetry, lofty sentiment, and variety of subject, style, and measure characterise the whole work, but especially the "Appendix." Churches about to choose a hymn book should certainly examine this.

*The Humiliation of Christ, in its Physical, Ethical, and Official Aspects.* The sixth series of the Cunningham Lectures. By ALEX. B. BRUCE, D.D., Professor of Divinity, Free Church College, Glasgow. (Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.) This is a book for theologians, and can be understood and appreciated only by those who are somewhat versed in the history of theological thought and controversy. The task undertaken by Professor Bruce is, as he confesses, both arduous and delicate. It is arduous, because it demands an acquaintance with an extensive literature of ancient, modern, and recent origin. It is delicate, because the subject is theologically abstruse, and the discussion of it involves so many possible dangers that one cannot approach it without conscious fear and trembling. Happily, Christians, even intelligent Christians, can rest in the plain statements of the gospels and epistles respecting their Lord, without troubling themselves about Kenotic theories, and the many speculations which have afflicted the Church respecting the mysterious constitution of His person. At the same time, we do not deprecate such studies as we find in Dr. Bruce's work, when pervaded with reverence and with a due sense of the limitation of our powers in the presence of the Divine and Infinite. And it is satisfactory to find that there are in the orthodox churches men who can discuss the themes of this volume with adequate learning and wisdom.

*Lange's Commentary on the Old Testament.* Exodus and Leviticus in one volume; Ezekiel and Daniel in one volume. (Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.) It is extremely difficult to review, or even accurately to characterise, these two goodly volumes, without details and discussions for which we cannot find space, and which would probably overstrain the patience of our readers. All, therefore, we shall do, is to indicate for the information of Biblical students what they contain. The commentary on Exodus is by the general editor, Dr. Lange, and is translated by Dr. Charles Mead, of Andover. The commentary on Leviticus is by Dr. Frederick Gardiner, of Middletown, Connecticut, and with it is incorporated a translation of the greater part of the German commentary on Leviticus by Dr. Lange. These commentaries are preceded by an introduction to the three middle books of the Pentateuch, in which is unfolded Dr. Lange's "original and ingenious view of the organic unity and trilogy" of these books. The commentary on Ezekiel is by Dr. Schröder, late pastor of the Reformed Church at Eiberfeld, and has been translated by the late Dr. Fairbairn, of the Free Church of Scotland, and the Rev. William Findlay, M.A., aided by the Rev. Thomas Crerar, M.A., and the Rev. Sinclair Manson, M.A., all Scottish Presbyterians. The late Dr. Fairbairn was one of the ablest of recent theologians, and his own Commentary on Ezekiel is a work of great value. His forte, as Dr. Schaff remarks truly, lay in the development of principles and comprehensive views rather than in critical notes and details. Many additions to Schröder's







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From GARTH WILKINSON, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S.E.

76, Wimpole-street, London, W.,  
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I remain, yours faithfully,  
GARTH WILKINSON,  
M.D., M.R.C.S.E.

From the Rev. Dr. KERNAHAN, M.A., Ph.D., F.G.S.  
&c., Editor of "Dickinson's Theological Quarterly."

St. Albans, March 28, 1876.

To Messrs. Darlow and Co.

GENTLEMEN,—I have pleasure in stating that I have derived much benefit from the use of your Magnetic Chest and Throat Protector, which I have been wearing since the close of the year 1874, having adopted it after a severe attack of quinsy, from which I have been ever since happily free. I am also glad to inform you that two ladies of my acquaintance, who had suffered much from bronchial irritation, have experienced much benefit from having a "Protector." I think it right to make you acquainted with these facts, and I give you liberty to use this note as you think proper.—Yours truly,  
JAMES KERNAHAN.

ADDITIONAL TESTIMONIAL FROM GARTH WILKINSON, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S.E.

76, Wimpole-street, Cavendish-square, W.,  
June 15, 1876.

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GARTH WILKINSON, M.D., M.R.C.S.E.

From the Rev. HENRY BUDD.

Wealeyan Parsonage, Greymouth, New  
Zealand, July 22, 1876.

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Your obedient servant,  
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TENTH BONUS MEETING, 1877.

The Report presented at a Meeting held on the 4th January last showed,—

1. As to the Progress of the Society,  
that the growth and prosperity of the Society during the period, of which it gave numerous details, had been everywhere manifest,—

2. As to the Financial Position of the Society,  
that the Assurance Fund at the date  
of Valuation was £2,118,457 10 2  
and the calculated Liability at the  
same date 1,760,516 13 10

Thus leaving a surplus of £357,940 16 4

and that, after setting aside the Permanent Reserve Fund of £50,000, and the fractional amount of £7,940 16s. 4d., there remained for division the sum of £300,000, which was larger by £30,000 than on any previous occasion.

3. As to the Results of the Division,  
that the sum which fell to the Assured would produce reversionary additions to the Assurances, amounting in the aggregate to £357,014, varying in individual cases from 35 to 91 per cent., and averaging over 53 per cent. on the Premiums received in the Quinquennium;  
and that the Cash Bonus, which, being the present money value of the Reversionary Bonus, was the true measure of the all timent, averaged 30 per cent. on the like payments, as compared with 29 per cent. in 1874, the highest previous percentage.

4. As to the Basis of Valuation,  
that the Institute of Actuaries' new H.M. or Healthy Males Table, based on the experience of 20 of the largest English and Scotch offices, with 1st premiums and 3 per cent. interest, had been used in the investigation;  
and that the severity of the new test, as well as the strength and elasticity of the Society, were alike shown by the fact that the Reserve thus required was greater by £84,611 than that which would have been needed by the Carlisle Table.

The NEXT DIVISION OF PROFITS will take place in JANUARY, 1882, and Persons who effect NEW POLICIES before the end of JUNE NEXT will be entitled at that Division to one year's additional share of Profits over later Entrants.

The Report above mentioned, a detailed account of the proceedings of the Bonus meeting, the returns made to the Board of Trade, and every information, can be obtained at either of the Society's Offices, or from any of its Agents.

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## THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON VIVISECTION.

Wednesday, December 15, 1875.

Present:

The Right Hon. Viscount CARDWELL in the Chair.

The Right Hon. Lord WINMARLEIGH.

The Right Hon. W. E. FORSTER, M.P.

Sr J. B. KARSLAKE, M.P.

THOMAS HENRY HUXLEY, Esq.

JOHN ERIC ERICHSEN, Esq.

RICHARD HOLT HUTTON, Esq.

N. BAKER, Esq., Secretary.

Mr. JAMES MADEN HOLT, M.P., CALLED IN AND EXAMINED.

6162. (Chairman). I think you are a member of the Committee of the Society which has been formed under the name of "The Society for the Total Abolition of Vivisection," are you not?—I am.

6172. Have you paid much attention to the details of this subject which we are appointed to inquire into?—I have not. It was my intention, as soon as Parliament rose, to devote myself to the subject. I was in bed with fever when Parliament rose, and I am sorry to say that subsequent weakness has defeated my intention altogether.

6173. I am afraid we must consider your authority rather as expressing a strong sentiment of humanity than a detailed acquaintance with the subject which has been submitted to us!—Any evidence which I can offer must be restricted to the opinion which I have formed, and the considerations which have led me to form it. That I am prepared to give.

6180. Could you tell us about the number of Subscribers at the present moment?—No, I am afraid I could not. I must again say to your Lordship, that the fact of my having been so poorly has prevented me from taking any part in the matter, or from really acquiring the information on the subject which I had relied on the vacation to work up.

6288. As respects the opinion which you quoted from a book, which you were kind enough to read to us respecting Harvey and his recourse to vivisection, I presume that you have not taken the trouble to go to Harvey's works yourself?—No, I have not.

6289. And you are therefore not acquainted with a passage which has been before us from Harvey?—I am not acquainted with Harvey's works; that is just one of the misfortunes arising from my having been laid up during the vacation.

6292. Then as respects Bell, it is not worth while to trouble you upon that subject, but I presume in the same way you have not attended to the evidence on that subject?—No, I have not had the opportunity of working the thing up as I wished to have done.

6304. You are a member of the House of Commons, I think?—I am.

6305. As much of course you take part in legislation?—Yes.

MR. JAMES MADEN HOLT'S BILL.—The following remarks have been made in the "Times":—"As for Mr. Holt's Bill, physiologists will probably be glad to see it, for the absurdity of the position taken up by the author is transparent. He would have no operations on animals for the alleviation of human suffering; but he would permit the performing of any operation required to render animals better suited for the service of man, in health, of course. These operations may be of any sort, performed by any one, however unskilled, and without the use of anaesthetics. Could any proposal be more ridiculous? And yet it is seriously printed and laid on the table of Parliament."

SOCIETY for the ABOLITION of VIVISECTION.—A MEETING of the SUBSCRIBERS to the FUNDS of this Society was held on July 19, at the Westminster Palace Hotel, in pursuance of an Order of Vice-Chancellor Sir Richard Malins, in the case of "Holt, Harrison, and Bagshawe v. Jesse." The Meeting was numerously attended. Mr. GEORGE DEKING, of Barham Court, was selected as Chairman.

The statement of Accounts was read and unanimously carried. A Committee named by Mr. G. R. JESSE was appointed, and Mr. C. G. OATES as Honorary Treasurer (Mr. G. R. JESSE having declined the post, though pressed upon him). Mr. GEORGE R. JESSE was confirmed in his office of Honorary Secretary. Messrs. HOLT, M.P., HARRISON, and BAGSHAWE are not in office.

This termination of the long and harassing Chancery suit (brought without the consent of the Subscribers against the founder of the Society, and persisted in, in opposition to their wishes, in order to remove him from his office) was due to the large majority in his favour, and the general strong feeling amongst the Subscribers, which entirely overbore the very small minority. THE FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY ARE, HOWEVER, STILL LOCKED UP IN CHANCERY, and its operations greatly impeded in consequence of Messrs. HOLT, M.P., HARRISON, and BAGSHAWE's law suit.

GEORGE R. JESSE, Honorary Secretary, and Member of Committee, Hentley, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

February 10, 1877.

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Registered Offices—2, Storey's-gate, Westminster S.W.

#### PROSPECTUS.

In consequence of the exorbitant prices charged during the last two years for all descriptions of butchers' meat, which forms the heaviest item of expenditure in most households, and the certainty that without some vigorous effort on the part of the consumers to reduce them such prices will be maintained, if not further increased, notwithstanding the imports from America and elsewhere, it has been determined to extend to that article, and also to poultry, &c., if necessary, those co-operative principles which have proved so eminently successful in the supply and reduction in price of other household commodities.

To effect this object the Company has been established, and has entered into negotiations with some of the largest dealers in Scotland and elsewhere for a daily supply of meat of the best quality only, to be delivered at the Company's Stores, and thus by avoiding the extra profits of middlemen, salesmen, &c., &c., to enable the Directors to distribute the same at prices much less than those ordinarily charged by butchers, who have to provide for long credit and bad debts.

Business will be commenced by the opening of a Central Store, as near as practicable to Queen Victoria-street, City, where several co-operative societies have already been successfully established, and as from time to time sufficient capital is subscribed, one or more stores will be opened in each of the metropolitan districts, in accordance with the requirements of the shareholders and members.

Each Store will be so fitted up that ladies can make their purchases without the unpleasantness attendant on buying at an ordinary butcher's shop, and by the provision of a large refrigerator or ice-room, purchasers will be supplied with meat in prime condition, even in the hottest weather, a luxury rarely to be obtained either in town or country.

The Company will deliver free by their own conveyances all orders of 4lbs. weight and upwards, within a radius of two miles from each Store, and members living in the suburbs will have their orders sent by rail on reasonable terms by special arrangement.

It is intended after payment of the dividends of six per cent. on the Share Capital in each year and providing for a reserve fund, that the surplus profits shall be divided ratably amongst all purchasers who shall be holders of ordinary shares on production of their purchase receipts, the division to be declared in proportion to the gross annual purchases of such Shareholders, provided, however, that no member shall participate in such division upon any amount of purchases in excess of four times the nominal value of the ordinary shares held by him at the expiration of the financial year for which the division is made. In any case in which a member does not hold the requisite number of shares, the excess of the portion otherwise payable to him will be paid into the reserve fund.

The minimum saving to a purchaser of say 21lb. weight of meat per week is estimated to average about £15 per annum; at the same time he will be insured the best quality, whilst, if an ordinary shareholder, he will be entitled, in addition to his dividend of 6 per cent. upon the amount paid upon his shares, to participate in the surplus annual net profits.

Annual Tickets (application for which should be made on the form annexed to the prospectus), will be issued at 5s. each, entitling holders to purchase at the Stores, subject to such rules and regulations as the Directors shall from time to time determine.

A limited number of tickets at 2s. 6d. each, conferring the like privileges, can be obtained by the members of the various Civil Service Stores, until further notice, on application to

the Secretary of this Company, and on the production of their tickets.

Deposit accounts will be opened with the Shareholders and Members to enable them to send their orders by post, subject to such rules and regulations as the Directors shall from time to time determine, thus saving both time and trouble.

As a remunerative field for the employment of spare capital, the Preference Shares offer considerable advantage, having a priority as to dividend over the ordinary shares, in addition to the privileges and advantages obtained by dealing at the Stores; and every holder of Five fully-paid Preference Shares will be entitled to an annual ticket, without charge, in favour of a nominee, but such nomination to be exercised only once in each year in respect of the same shares.

Taking as a basis of calculation that 350 members only are supplied from each store, and that they each purchase on an average 24lb. weight of meat per week, this will amount to a sale of 8400lb. of meat per week at each store, and at a profit of only one penny per pound will amount to £35 per store per week, or a gross profit of £1820 per annum.

The average expenses of each store are estimated not to exceed £20 per week, or a gross expense of £1040 per annum, leaving a balance profit of £780 per store. Thus with ten stores open there would be a profit of £7,800 per annum, which, after deducting the expenses of management, and £1,800 for payment of the dividend of 6 per cent. per annum on £30,000 (the capital required for that number of stores), will leave a considerable surplus to be divided amongst the ordinary Shareholders and purchasers in manner aforesaid, after payment of dividends and providing for a reserve fund, to meet contingencies and for equalisation of dividends.

It is intended, in the event of its being found necessary to dispose of any surplus stock, to sell the same to the general public after the ordinary business of the stores is concluded.

The only agreement entered into on behalf of the Company is one made on the 21st day of February, 1877, between Richard Harris Hill, of the one part, and Michael Joseph Sullivan, for and on behalf of the Company, of the other part.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares can be obtained of the solicitors, bankers, and at the offices of the Company, where the Articles of Association and the above-mentioned agreement may be seen.

## HOUSE PROPERTY AND INVESTMENT COMPANY (LIMITED).

69, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON.

Capital—ONE MILLION,

In 40,000 fully paid-up Shares of £25 each.

For the PURCHASE and SALE of  
PRODUCTIVE & PROGRESSIVE HOUSE PROPERTY  
and improving the  
DWELLINGS of the WORKING CLASSES on the SELF-  
SUPPORTING PRINCIPLE.

Registered March 15th, 1876.

#### DIRECTORS.

Henry Aste, Esq., 6, Trinity-square, Tower-hill, and Castle-hill Lodge, Upper Norwood (Chairman London Corn Exchange).  
William Macdonald Baden, Esq., 11, Great St. Helen's, and Lloyd's.  
William Sutton Gover, Esq., 4, Queen-street-place, E.C., and Havering House, Blackheath (Member of the London School Board).  
Fountain John Hartley, Esq., Adde-street, E.C. (Hon. Secretary London Sunday-School Union).  
William Smith, Esq., Oak Lawn, Beulah hill, Upper Norwood.  
Robert Parker Taylor, Esq., Adelaide-place, London Bridge (Director Lambeth Baths and Washhouses Company).  
Thomas White, Esq., Upper Thames-street, E.C.  
Edward Bean Underhill, Esq., LL.D., Hampstead (Hon. Sec. Baptist Missionary Society).

#### SOLICITOR.

Henry Gover, Esq., 40, King William-street, E.C.

#### SECRETARY.

Mr. W. H. Baden, 69, King William-street, E.C.

#### AUDITORS.

John Thomas Bedford, Esq., 12, King-street, Snow-hill, and Mecklenburg-square, (Chairman West Ham Park Committee).  
James Clarke, Esq., 1, Cedars-road, Clapham, and 13, Fleet-street, E.C. (Editor and Proprietor of the "Christian World").  
Charles Kemp Dyer, Esq., J.P., St. Albans, Herts, and Lloyd's.

#### BANKERS.

London and Westminster Bank, Lothbury.

1. The first issue of 4,000 fully paid-up Shares of £25 each has been allotted.
2. Applications are now being received for the second issue of 4,000 Shares at £1 per Share premium. 1,617 have been already allotted.
3. Fifty-one estates have been purchased at a cost of £121,788 and other purchases are in course of negotiation.
4. After making a full allowance for all rates, repairs, loss of rent, and diminution of term in case of leaseholds, the income from the estates already purchased is expected to amount to nearly 8 per cent. besides profit on re-sales.
5. Shareholders, in addition to 5 per cent. interest will participate in the periodical bonuses, which, it is expected, will be declared by the Company from time to time.
6. Owners of eligible house property wishing to sell at a moderate price should send particulars to the Secretary.

For full information apply to

W. H. BADEN, Secretary.

Of whom may be obtained approving notices of the Press, and an explanatory pamphlet, entitled "Another Five Minutes' Talk about the House Property and Investment Company (Limited)," prospectus, and share application forms.

### POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY (Limited).

34, Cannon-street, London.

#### CHAIRMAN.

M. H. Chaytor, Esq., Chairman of Alliance Bank.

#### TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRAL FUNDS.

The Rt. Hon Sir Richard Couch (late Chief Justice of Bengal)  
Thomas Hughes, Esq., Q.C. | William Macandrew, Esq., J.P.

#### POLICY-HOLDERS' TRUST FUNDS.

THE PREMIUM FUNDS, INVESTED IN NAMES OF TRUSTEES FOR POLICY-HOLDERS.

31st December, 1872.....	£4,233 14 8
31st December, 1873.....	27,324 4 8
31st December, 1874.....	57,820 5 0
31st December, 1875.....	85,224 9 5
31st December, 1876.....	108,886 8 11

#### POLICY-HOLDERS' GUARANTEE FUND

(In addition to the above)—  
CONSOLS, £51,080 2s. 11d.

**"ARCHIMEDEAN" LAWN MOWER**  
will cut long or wet grass (as well as short and dry) without clogging. Is extremely light in draught, simple in construction, and not likely to get out of order. It can be used with or without Grass Box. Warranted to give satisfaction.

**"ARCHIMEDEAN" LAWN MOWER**  
"is the quickest, most simple, and most efficient Mower ever used."—Gardeners' Chronicle.

**"ARCHIMEDEAN" LAWN MOWER**  
is especially adapted for Cutting Slopes, Steep Embankments, under Shrubs, and close up to Trees, &c.

**"ARCHIMEDEAN" LAWN MOWER.**  
PRICES FROM TWENTY-FIVE SHILLINGS. Delivered carriage free to all stations. Illustrated Catalogue and Testimonials post free on application.

**"ARCHIMEDEAN" LAWN MOWER.**  
WILLIAMS & Co., LIMITED, Manufacturers and Patentees.

#### SELLING AGENTS:

JOHN G. ROLLINS & Co., Old Swan Wharf, Thames-street, London.  
WALTER CARSON & SONS, La Belle Sauvage-yard, Ludgate-hill, London; and 21, Bachelor's-walk, Dublin.

**EXCELSIOR GAS BATH, £5 10s. 0d.**  
Eclipse Gas Range, with open fire, registered. Sole maker, G. SHREWSBURY, 59, Old Bailey, E.C. Factory, 98, Barrington-road S.W.

**PURE, FRAGRANT, AND DURABLE.**  
For the Toilet, the Nursery, and for Shaving.

### Pears's Transparent Soap

"Is an article of the nicest and most careful manufacture, and one of the most refreshing and agreeable of balms to the skin."

JOURNAL OF CUTANEOUS MEDICINE," Edited by  
MR. ERASMUS WILSON, F.R.S.

SOLD BY CHEMISTS & PERFUMERS EVERYWHERE.

**REMOVING or WAREHOUSING FURNITURE, &c.** Application should be made to the BEDFORD PANTHEONIC COMPANY (Limited) for their Prospectus. Removals effected by large railway vans. Estimates free. Advances made if required.—Address, Manager, 194, Tottenham-court-road, W.C.

### KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.

KINAHAN and Co., finding that, through the recommendation of the Medical Profession, the demand for their CELEBRATED OLD LL WHISKY for purely medicinal purposes is very great, submit with pleasure the following ANALYSIS by Dr. HASSALL:—

"I have very carefully and fully analysed samples of this well-known and popular Whisky. The samples were soft and mellow to the taste, aromatic and ethereal to the smell. The Whisky must be pronounced to be pure, well-matured, and of very excellent quality. The Medical Profession may feel full confidence in the purity and quality of this Whisky." 20, ST. TITCHFIELD ST., LONDON, W.

**OBSTINATE ERUPTIONS of the SKIN.**—All Pimples, Blotches, Freckles, Redness of the Nose, and Spots on the Face or Neck will be effectually removed by using Marris's celebrated Sulphur Soap and Compound Sulphur Lozenges. Price, Soap, 1s.; Lozenges, 1s. 1d. By post, 14 stamps each.  
Marris, 37, Berners Street, London; Staircase, Soho Bazaar, and of all Chemists.

### HEAL ALL!

For BROKEN SHINS, CHILBLAINS, RHEUMATISM, LUMBAGO, &c., no Embrocation surpasses "DREDGE'S HEAL ALL." Prepared only by BARCLAY & SONS, 95, Farringdon-street, London, and sold by all Chemists in bottles at 1s. 1d.

### NERVO-PATHY.

Established nearly 30 years.

All Sufferers from NERVOUSNESS and INDIGESTION or Severe Pains at the Pit of the Stomach, can without doubt be cured by Dr. BAICHELOUR'S Simple Remedies, the NERVO-ARTERIAL ESSENCE, or the DINNER POWDERS, even if all other means have failed; they require but one trial to prove this fact. See Pamphlet, which contains valuable information to the healthy as well as the sick, by post 4d., in stamps, of the NERVO-ARTERIAL ESSENCE COMPANY, Sole Proprietors, 12, Finsbury-place South, London, E.C. Essence, 2s. 9d. per bottle; Dinner Powders, 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per packet, of all Chemists, or of the Company.



**PIANOS**, by Broadwood and others; Harps, by Erard.—KEITH, PROWSE, and Co. undertake the selection for buyers upon terms which they cannot otherwise obtain. Keith, Prowse, and Co. repair or exchange worn or injured instruments of every description.—City Royal Music Repository, 43, Cheapside.

**MUSICAL BOXES**, by Nicole Frères.—KEITH, PROWSE, and Co., direct importers, have the largest STOCK of really fine BOXES in Europe, £3 to £300. The new rooms devoted to the display of these instruments are now ready. Self-acting and Barrel Pianos, 16 guineas to 120 guineas.

**Æolian Harps**.—NEW MODEL, as exhibited at the International Exhibition, vibrating with the slightest breeze, including case and key, 31s 6d.; Double Harps, two guineas to four guineas.—KEITH, PROWSE, and Co., Manufacturers, No 48, Cheapside.

**FLUTES**.—NEW MODEL, for beauty of tone unsurpassed, four guineas and seven guineas; Rudall's Prize-metal Flutes, new and second-hand. A great variety of second-hand Flutes, one guinea to twenty-five guineas, at KEITH, PROWSE, and Co.'s Manufactory, 48, Cheapside.

**BANJOES**.—CHEAPSIDE MODEL is best. Covered back, machine head, &c., five guineas; including light case, £8. Other models, one to twelve guineas. Self-instructing book, with airs, songs, &c., 6s. net, post free.—KEITH, PROWSE, and Co., Manufacturers, No. 48, Cheapside.

**COAL**.—COCKERELL'S COALS.—Best Wallsend, 26s.; Wallsend—Class B, 24s.; Best Inland, 24s. Inland, Class B, 22s. Best Coke, 14s. Cash on delivery. Central Office: 13, Cornhill.

**COALS**.—LEA and CO'S PRICES.—Hetton or Lambton, 26s.; Wallsend Seconds, 25s.; best Wigan, 24s.; best Silkstone, 24s.; best Stafford, 24s.; new Silkstone, 23s.; Derby Bright, 22s.; Barnsley, 22s.; Kitchen, 20s.; Hartley, 20s.; Cobbles, 19s.; Nuts, 19s.; Steam, 20s.; Coke, 14s. per 12 sacks. Cash. S. E. Depot, Highbury, N.; Highgate, N.; Kingsland, E.; Beauvoir Wharf, Kingsland-road; Great Northern Railway Stations, King's-cross and Holloway; and South Tottenham, N.; and 4 and 5, Wharves, Regent's Park-basin, N.W.

**MANSON AND CO'S IMPROVED SATIN-GLAZE STARCH**, for imparting Beauty of Finish, Purity of Colour, and an Elastic Stiffness to Linens and Muslins, is unequalled, and is cheaper than any other, as one pound is equal to a pound and a-half of any other Starch. Agents wanted. Caledonian Works, George-street, Bromley, London, E.

**DR. NICHOLS' FOOD OF HEALTH**. Nutritious and Delicious. A Breakfast and Supper Dish. Invaluable for persons with weak digestions. A perfect Diet for Children. Prevents the need of aperients. Purifies the Blood. The price places it within the reach of all. Eightpence per pound. Sold Everywhere. Wholesale Agents—Franks and Co., 14, Little Tower-street, London.

**POOLEY'S VEGETABLE DIGESTIVE PILLS**. Unequalled as a Cure for Indigestion. See Testimonials. Of any Chemist for 1s. 1½d., or from J. C. POOLEY, Bath, free, for 1s. 3d.

**CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR**. Opiates, Narcotics, and Squills are too often invoked to give relief in Coughs, Colds, and all Pulmonary Diseases. Instead of such fallacious remedies, which yield momentary relief at the expense of enfeebling the digestive organs, and thus increasing that debility which lies at the root of the malady, modern science points to CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR as the true remedy.

**DR. ROOKE'S TESTIMONIAL**. Dr. Rooke, Scarborough, author of the "Anti-Lancet," says:—"I have repeatedly observed how very rapidly and invariably it subdued Cough, Pain, and Irritation of the Chest in cases of Pulmonary Consumption, and I can, with the greatest confidence, recommend it as a most valuable adjunct to an otherwise strengthening treatment for this disease." This medicine, which is free from opium and squills, not only allays the local irritation, but improves digestion and strengthens the constitution. Hence it is used with the most signal success in Asthma, Bronchitis, Consumption, Coughs, Influenza, Night Sweats of Consumption, Quinsy, and all affections of the throat and chest. Sold in bottles at 1s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each, by all respectable chemists, and wholesale by Jas. M. Crosby, Chemist, Scarborough. \*Invalids should read Crosby's Prize Treatise on "Diseases of the Lungs and Air Vessels," a copy of which can be had gratis of all Chemists.

**DR. ROOKE'S ORIENTAL PILLS AND SOLAR ELIXIR**. These well-known family medicines have had a continually-increasing sale throughout the United Kingdom and the British Colonies since their first introduction in 1836, and are especially noted for their strengthening and restorative properties. Hence their invariable success in the relief and cure of Indigestion, Liver Complaints, Asthma and Bronchitis, Pulmonary Consumption, Rheumatism, Gout, Scrofula, General Debility, and all Diseases of the Nervous System, whether arising from sedentary mode of life, unhealthy occupation, insalubrious climate, or other cause whatsoever. The Oriental Pills are sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d. and 4s. 6d. each. The Solar Elixir in bottles at 4s. 6d. and 11s. each. Both to be obtained of all Chemists.

**"DR. ROOKE'S ANTI-LANCET."** All who wish to preserve health and thus prolong life should read Dr. Rooke's "Anti-Lancet," or "Handy Guide to Domestic Medicine," which can be had gratis from any chemist, or post free from Dr. Rooke, Scarborough. Concerning this book, the late eminent author Sheridan Knowles observed:—"It will be an incalculable boon to every person who can read and think."

**SUDDEN MOURNING**. MESSRS. JAY are always provided with experienced dressmakers and milliners, ready to travel to any part of the kingdom, free of expense to purchasers, when the emergencies of sudden and unexpected mourning require the immediate execution of mourning orders. They take with them dresses and millinery, besides materials at 1s. per yard and upwards to cut from the piece, all marked in plain figures, and at the same price as if purchased at the London General Mourning Warehouse in Regent-street. Reasonable estimates are also given for household mourning at a great saving to large or small families.

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**PIANOFORTES**. EAVESTAFF'S 23 GUINEA WALNUT COTTAGES (the London Model) are the cheapest and best instruments ever offered to the public. Elegant, durable; pure musical tone. Pianofortes tuned, repaired, and taken in exchange on liberal terms. EAVESTAFF, 56, Jermyn-street, St. James's.

**LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE**. In consequence of Spurious Imitations of LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE, which are calculated to deceive the Public, LEA & PERRINS have adopted A NEW LABEL, bearing their Signature—

*Lea & Perrins*  
which signature is placed on every bottle of  
**Worcestershire Sauce**  
and without which none is genuine.  
\* \* Sold wholesale by the Proprietors, Worcester; Cross and Blackwell, London; and Export Oilmen generally. Retail, by dealers in Sauces throughout the World.

**WILLS' BEST BIRD'S-EYE**. This Tobacco is now put up in ONE OUNCE PACKETS in addition to the other sizes, the Label being a reduced fac-simile of that used for the Two-Ounce Packets. W. D. & H. O. WILLS, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., and Bristol.

**MR. COOKE BAINES, SURVEYOR and VALUER, PREPARES and NEGOTIATES COMPENSATION CLAIMS** for Property Compulsorily taken for Railways and other Improvements, and also Values property for every purpose.—26, Finsbury-place, Moorgate-street, E.C.

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**BROWN AND POLSON'S CORN FLOUR**

HAS Twenty Years' World-wide Reputation, AND IS UNEQUALLED FOR UNIFORMLY SUPERIOR QUALITY.

GENTLEMEN desirous of having their Linens dressed to perfection should supply their Laundresses with the "GLENFIELD STARCH," Which imparts a brilliancy and elasticity gratifying to the wearer.

**DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA**. For over 30 years approved as the best remedy for ACIDITY of the STOMACH, HEARTBURN, HEADACHE, GOUT, and INDIGESTION; and as a safe and gentle aperient for delicate constitutions, ladies, children and infants. DINNEFORD AND Co., 172, New Bond-street, London, and all Chemists.

**WASHING MACHINERY. LAUNDRY FITTINGS. DECLIVITY AND OTHER CHURNS.** THOS. BRADFORD & CO. SEWING MACHINES & TOOLS OF ALL KINDS FOR HOUSE, GARDEN, DAIRY & STABLE &c. &c. 140, 142 & 143 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON. SYRINGES. WATERCANS. WATERBARROWS. GARDEN SEATS. SPADES. RAKES. FORKS. HOES. &c. &c. EVERY MAKE. EVERY SIZE. CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL**, Purveyors to the Queen, SOHO-SQUARE, LONDON, direct attention to the following articles of their manufacture, which always bear their name and address on the labels.

**PURE PICKLES in MALT VINEGAR.**

**CAPT. WHITE'S ORIENTAL PICKLES**, an exquisite compound of sweets and sour.

**PURE MALT VINEGAR** of uniform strength and flavour, in Imperial pint and quart bottles.

**SAUCES for FISH, GAME, &c.**

**POTTED MEATS and FISH** in fancy tins and jars.

**MOCK TURTLE, OX-TAIL, HARE, GRAVY, JULIENNE, and MULLIGATAWNY SOUPS.**

**JAMS, JELLIES, and ORANGE MARMALADE**, made from fresh Fruit and with refined Sugar only.

**CALVES'-FEET JELLY** in bottles, Orange, Lemon, Madeira, and Vanilla flavours.

**FLAVOURING ESSENCES**, distilled from the fresh Fruits and Spices, Orange, Lemon, Vanilla, Almond, Ginger, Mace, &c., &c.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S** Genuine Manufactures always bear their name and address on the labels, and may be obtained of Grocers, Chemists, and Italian Warehousemen throughout the world.

**IMPORTANT TESTIMONIALS TO THE VALUE OF KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.**

The last mail from Natal brought the following unsolicited letters to the Proprietor.

JOHN KAYE, Esq., PROSPECT HALL, WOODFORD, ESSEX:—  
DURBAN, PORT NATAL,  
14th December, 1876.

Sir,—I feel it a duty on my part to speak as to the great benefit I have derived from taking your Pills. They not only restore, but invigorate the system in cases of Bile, Flatulency, Indigestion, &c. They seem to be invaluable. I have recommended them to friends of mine, and their praise is universal; and I feel convinced that in a hot climate like this they must be beneficial in more ways than one. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
JOSEPH WILLIAM SANDERSON EDGSON.

JOHN KAYE, Esq.,  
Sir,—I gladly endorse my husband's remarks respecting your Pills. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
14. 12. 76. M. S. EDGSON.

Sold by all Chemists at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. per box.

**CONVULSIONS IN TEETHING**. The Nursery has no more innocent help than Mrs. JOHN-SON'S SOOTHING SYRUP, which, applied to the Infant's Gums, relieves the pain and prevents convulsions. CONTAINS NO NARCOTIC. See the name of "BARCLAY & SONS, Farringdon-st., London," is on the stamp. Sold by all Chemists at 2s. 9d. a bottle.

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**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—SAMUEL BROTHERS.**

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**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Have Registered**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—These renowned**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Untearable Fabrics.**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—They can only**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Be obtained**

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**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Young Gentlemen's**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Suits (any colour)**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—From these Materials,**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Will stand the**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Hard test of**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Boys' wear.**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—They are a great**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Protection against**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Inclement weather.**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—The C and D Classes**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Are recommended.**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Suit for a Youth 3ft. 8in.**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—C Class, 27s.; D Class, 31s.**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Gentlemen's Suits**

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**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—Patterns and Guide**

**WEAR RESISTING (Regd.).—To Self-measurement free.**

**SAMUEL BROTHERS, Sydenham-house,**

**LUDGATE-HILL (65 and 67), E.C.**



**RANGER'S MODEL CHAPELS.**

Upwards of SEVENTY of these Chapels have already been erected, and the orders for them are steadily increasing. No complaints of defective ventilation or acoustics. Send stamped envelope for testimonials and prospectus. Photographs of Chapels in various styles, to sent from 100 to 1,000, 4d. each.

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**JOHN MOIR AND SON'S CELEBRATED PREPARATIONS.**

GENUINE SCOTCH ORANGE MARMALADE.  
GENUINE SCOTCH PURE JAMS.  
SOUPS IN TINS READY FOR USE.  
Dry Lobsters in Tins, for Salads, Curries, &c.  
Ham and Chicken Sausages in Skins and Tins.  
DUKE OF EDINBURGH SAUCE, PICKLES, &c. Can be had of upwards of 3,000 Grocers in United Kingdom. Factories, Aberdeen and London.

Price One Shilling, a Short Treatise, explaining the Fundamental Principles of Ventilation, entitled,  
**FRESH AIR IN THE HOUSE, AND HOW TO SECURE IT.**

By JAMES CURTIS,

BUILDER OF CHURCHES, HALLS, SCHOOLS, CONSERVATORIES, &c., IN IRON AND ZINC.  
LIGHTING, VENTILATING, and WARMING on NATURAL and SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES. The Author is prepared to VENTILATE BUILDINGS of every description, including Churches, Halls, Reading-rooms, Libraries, Theatres, Public and Private Offices, Dwelling-houses, Cellars, or Vaults, &c.

Having for many years made the subject of Ventilation his particular care, and having been uniformly successful where his services have been made use of, will guarantee all works of this description that he may undertake.

\* By this system the obnoxious introduction of Perforated Bricks or Iron gratings in walls is entirely dispensed with.

Estimates and Plans furnished on application.

No. 298, EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, N.W.

## DRUCE & COMPANY'S HOUSE FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT.

### THE LARGEST STOCK IN THE KINGDOM

Of Every Description of Furniture suitable for any Class of House, conveniently arranged for inspection, and marked in Plain Figures at the LOWEST CASH PRICES.

CARPETS. DINING-ROOM FURNITURE. BEDSTEADS.  
CURTAINS. DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE. BEDDING, and  
FLOORCLOTHS, &c. LIBRARY FURNITURE. CHAMBER FURNITURE.

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CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. PAGE WOOD stated that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the defendant, FREEMAN, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, had been sworn to.—See Times, 13th July, 1864.

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# PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.

CHIEF OFFICES—62, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON.

## SUMMARY OF QUINQUENNIAL REPORT.

For the Period ending 31st December, 1876.

In valuing the business of the Company for the period ending 1871, the Carlisle Table of Mortality, with 3 per cent. interest, was adopted for both Branches. Since that time the Institute of Actuaries have published the result of its investigations into the mortality existing among assured lives, and the Directors, desirous to obtain the latest experience on the subject, had no hesitation whatever in deciding to adopt the result of such experience for the valuation of the Ordinary Branch.

The only question requiring any serious consideration on their part was the rate of interest which should be assumed in the calculations, and after mature deliberation on the subject, the Directors resolved to adhere to the rate used on the previous occasion—viz., 3 per cent., and they therefore instructed the Actuary of the Ordinary Branch to value his policies by the Institute Hx 3 per cent. Table, and with pure premiums only.

The effect of the adoption of these principles will be to increase the amount required to be held in reserve to a very considerable extent.

In the Industrial Branch, the Directors have, for some years, recorded their own mortality experience, but they hesitated to use this until the results shall have been confirmed by still further experience, and they thought it unadvisable to adopt a table of mortality which had not been made public.

The various published Tables of Mortality were compared with the Prudential experience, and finding that Dr. Farr's English Life Table (No. 3) very closely approximated to their own experience, they preferred using it for the present valuation; and they were further induced to adopt this table from the fact that the results were deduced from the mortality of the population at large.

The instructions to the Actuary of the Industrial Branch were, therefore, to value by the English Life Table (No. 3), with 3 per cent. interest.

The Directors have had under consideration the anomalous results which would be produced by classifying the ages in the Industrial Branch according to the usual methods; and it was therefore resolved to adopt a different system, keeping the policies issued in each year distinct, and making a separate valuation for each year of issue.

They further instructed the Actuary to make separate valuations for male and female lives, and, as the first policies were issued by the Company in the year 1852, this involved the enormous labour of fifty separate valuations. He was also instructed, not merely to exclude negative values, but to provide a positive liability for every single policy in force. This has been done.

The reports of the Actuaries show that while the Assurance Funds on 31st December, 1876, amount to ... .. £869,259

The Reserves required are—

Ordinary Branch ... ..	£404,835
Industrial Branch ... ..	356,736
	<u>£761,571</u>

Showing a surplus of ... .. £107,688

The Directors have submitted the reports of their Actuaries to Mr. A. H. Bailey, to whose important report they beg to draw special attention.

During the five years the premium income of the Company has increased from £348,975 15s. 6d. to £1,063,821 14s. 4d., showing an increase of £714,845 18s. 10d.

The Assurance Fund, notwithstanding the charges incurred for extension expenses, has been increased from £354,438 13s. 1d. to £868,401 5s. 4 1/2., showing an increase of £513,962 12s. 3d.

It may be interesting to the Share and Policyholders to be informed that the Valuation of the Business of the Company has been completed in six weeks from the time of closing the books on 31st December, 1876, and when it is borne in mind that the number of contracts in the Ordinary Branch was 17,912, and in the Industrial Branch 2,643,665, the operation is one totally unexampled in the history of Life Assurance, and testifies in an unmistakable manner to the efficiency of the staff of the Company.

In conclusion the Directors again congratulate the various connections of the Company upon its present satisfactory condition, and assure them that the very cautious principles which have hitherto guided them will continue to animate them in the future, and they rely on the cordial co-operation of every one interested in its welfare to help to advance the Company to a still greater position of prosperity.

The full Reports of the Actuaries, Messrs. T. C. Dewey and W. Hughes, can be obtained on application to the Chief Office, or from any of the Agents of the Company.

### BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, on the 31st December, 1876.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	...	10,062	0	0
Life Assurance Fund	...	868,401	5	4
Sickness and Assurance Fund	...	827	18	0
Contingency Fund, created at Annual Meeting, April, 1872	...	16,086	0	0
Leasehold Redemption Fund	...	2,000	0	0
		<u>£897,407</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Claims under Life Policies admitted but not yet paid	...	9,366	11	9

£906,767 15 1

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom	...	72,472	18	6
Loans on the Company's Policies	...	15,556	6	0
Investments:—				
In British Government Securities	...	47,236	18	11
India and Colonial ditto	...	74,810	8	1
Foreign ditto	...	16,867	15	3
Railway and other Debentures and Debenture Stock	...	47,203	5	8
Ditto Shares (Preference and Ordinary)	...	5,881	11	4
Trust Funds Certificates	...	20,423	10	0
Freehold Ground Rents	...	176,512	18	9
House Property (Freehold and Leasehold)	...	133,493	2	10
Life and other Interests and Reversions	...	97,149	9	9
Furniture and Fittings (Head and Branch Offices)	...	11,200	15	4
Loans upon Personal Security	...	30,298	18	9
Loan on Borough Rates	...	8,640	0	0
Mortgage of Reversions	...	6,303	18	1
Agents' Balances	...	43,399	6	9
Outstanding Premiums	...	5,272	1	10
Ditto Interest and Rents	...	6,166	15	2
Amount due from Official Liquidator of International Society	...	24,616	16	2
Deposits at Three Months Notice	...	23,000	0	0
Cash—On Deposit	...	£10,000	0	0
In hand and on current account	...	30,996	7	11
		<u>£906,767</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>

We have examined the foregoing Accounts, and them to be correct, and hereby confirm the same. We have also seen and examined the various securities.

February 13, 1877.

JAMES GILLMAN, Chairman.  
THOMAS REID, Directors.  
H. J. GIBBINS, Directors.

JAMES ALLANSON, } Auditors.  
ROBERT BARNES, }  
HENRY HARBEN, Resident Director.  
W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.